■ Lifestyle / C1
Monaco royal spent nearly entire visit with poor children

■ Sports / A26
RP chess team places 12th at Olympiad

■ Sunday Biz / B2
SM's Tessie Sy makes it again to Fortune's list of most powerful women

■ SIM / Q4
American priest, avid Noranian, marks 50 years of service to RP

JOB Market
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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
Sunday, October 31, 2004 ★★ ~~112~~ 122 -14 SM pages / 15 sections / vol. 19 / no. 326 P18
website: www.inq7.net

Lawmaker wants to hike taxes on 'nip-and-tuck' set

MATA-TAX ANG BEAUTY KO!

By Carlito Pablo

HE'S NOT going to be popular with the nip-tuck generation.

Rep. Abraham Mitra (LP, Palawan) has filed a bill seeking to impose a

LAWMAKER/ A21

Bin Laden warns US

Jolts campaign for presidential poll on Nov. 2

WASHINGTON—Osama bin Laden loomed large over the final whirlwind Saturday of the US presidential race as the two contenders sparred over how best to defeat the al-Qaida leader after he threatened new attacks in a videotape the day before.

Both candidates accused the other of playing politics with the war on terror following the airing by the Al-Jazeera television network of a videotape from the mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001, strikes on New York and Washington that left some 3,000 people dead.

In the videotape broadcast on Friday, Bin Laden made a direct, formal address to the American people, saying that the best way for Americans to avoid a repeat of the Sept. 11 attacks was to stop threatening Muslims' security.

The videotape of the Qaida leader was the first to surface in more than a year, and it was more formal and less confrontational than the few previous messages attributed to Bin Laden that emerged in the past three years.

Bin Laden did not explicitly threaten any new attacks in an excerpt of the videotape. But the appearance of the tape four days before the US election day injected the presence of al-Qaida and Bin Laden into a presidential campaign in which the threat of terrorism has weighed heavily.

In his statement, Bin Laden referred to both President George W. Bush and Sen. John Kerry by name, but he said the prospect of a future terrorist attack would depend not on the outcome of the election, but on concrete actions taken by the United States.

"Your security is not in the hands of Kerry or Bush or al-Qaida; your security is in your own hands," Bin Laden said. He added: "Any state that does not mess with our security has naturally guaranteed its own security."

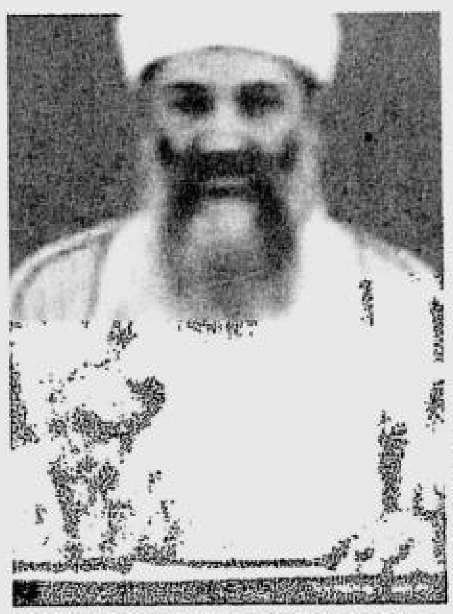
At times gesturing emphatically, the Qaida leader wore a long gray beard, traditional white robes, a golden cloak and a turban. He gazed directly into the camera as he delivered his address, which he appeared to be reading from a text.

"Oh, American people, I am speaking to tell you about the ideal way to avoid another Manhattan, about war and its causes and results," he said. He added: "Despite entering the fourth year after Sept. 11, Bush is still deceiving you and hiding the truth from you, and therefore the reasons are still there to repeat what happened."

In contrast to his haggard appearance in his last videotaped message, broadcast on Sept. 10, 2003, Bin Laden appeared vigorous and healthy.

US intelligence officials, who indicated that they had obtained access to the entire videotape, said it appeared to have been made recently, possibly as recently as Sunday. US intelligence and law enforcement officials said an analysis by the CIA had indicated with "a high degree of confidence" that the tape was authentic.

BIN LADEN/ A21


REUTERS/AL JAZEERA TV

OSAMA BIN LADEN: The reasons are still there to repeat what happened.

Army hospital chief sacked for using old medicines

By Alcuin Papa

THE COMMANDING officer of the Army's Fort Bonifacio General Hospital has been relieved on allegations that he had allowed expired medicines to be administered to soldiers injured in battle, the Armed Forces said yesterday.

But Lt. Col. Buenaventura Pascual, chief of the AFP public information office, stressed that the use of expired medicines had neither resulted in the death of any soldier nor aggravated the condition of any patient.

Pascual said the relief of Col. William Yu was deemed effective on June 1 but had been approved on July 28 by Lt. Gen. Efren Abu, the then commanding general of the Army and now the AFP chief of staff.

He said Yu was likewise investigated for alleged misappropriation of refunds from the Philippine Health Insurance Corp. (PHIC) and using spurious receipts for medical supplies.

Pascual also said the process was ongoing and that Yu was on "floating status."

But five complainants against Yu have also been relieved, he said.

Yu's relief came to light as a result of an RMN radio broadcast early yesterday of an interview with Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye.

In the interview, Bunye was asked to comment on a nurse's taped statement that she and her colleagues had been told to use expired injectable antibiotics for the treatment of wounded soldiers and even post-surgery patients.

In response, Bunye said: "I believe [Defense] Secretary [Avelino] Cruz should look into this allegation to know if this is true or not.

"He knows how serious these allegations are, and I don't think it is right to just dismiss these outright."

ARMY/ A4

ROMY HOMILLADA

NEITHER creepy nor morbid: David L. Neese, superintendent, Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in Fort Bonifacio, cares for the final resting place of 17,206 US soldiers killed in WWII.

Living inside a cemetery, he fears the living more

By Jerome Aning

GETTING strange looks after mentioning your address is not usual. But then, most people do not live in a cemetery.

Daniel L. Neese, superintendent of the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial, watches over the graves of the American war dead so that their sacrifices would continue to be remembered and honored.

The 51-year-old Neese, a former United States Air Force security policeman and Vietnam War veteran, chuckles when he recalls how new acquaintances would stare at him in disbelief whenever he extended an invitation to his house, which happens to be inside the cemetery.

"Most people don't live in a cemetery but then again it's all up here [in the mind]. Some people buy houses right next door," he said, gesturing to the exclusive gated communities and condominium high-rises surrounding the cemetery at Fort Bonifacio in Makati.

"Just because they're outside the gate it makes a big difference, while I live inside the gate," he said.

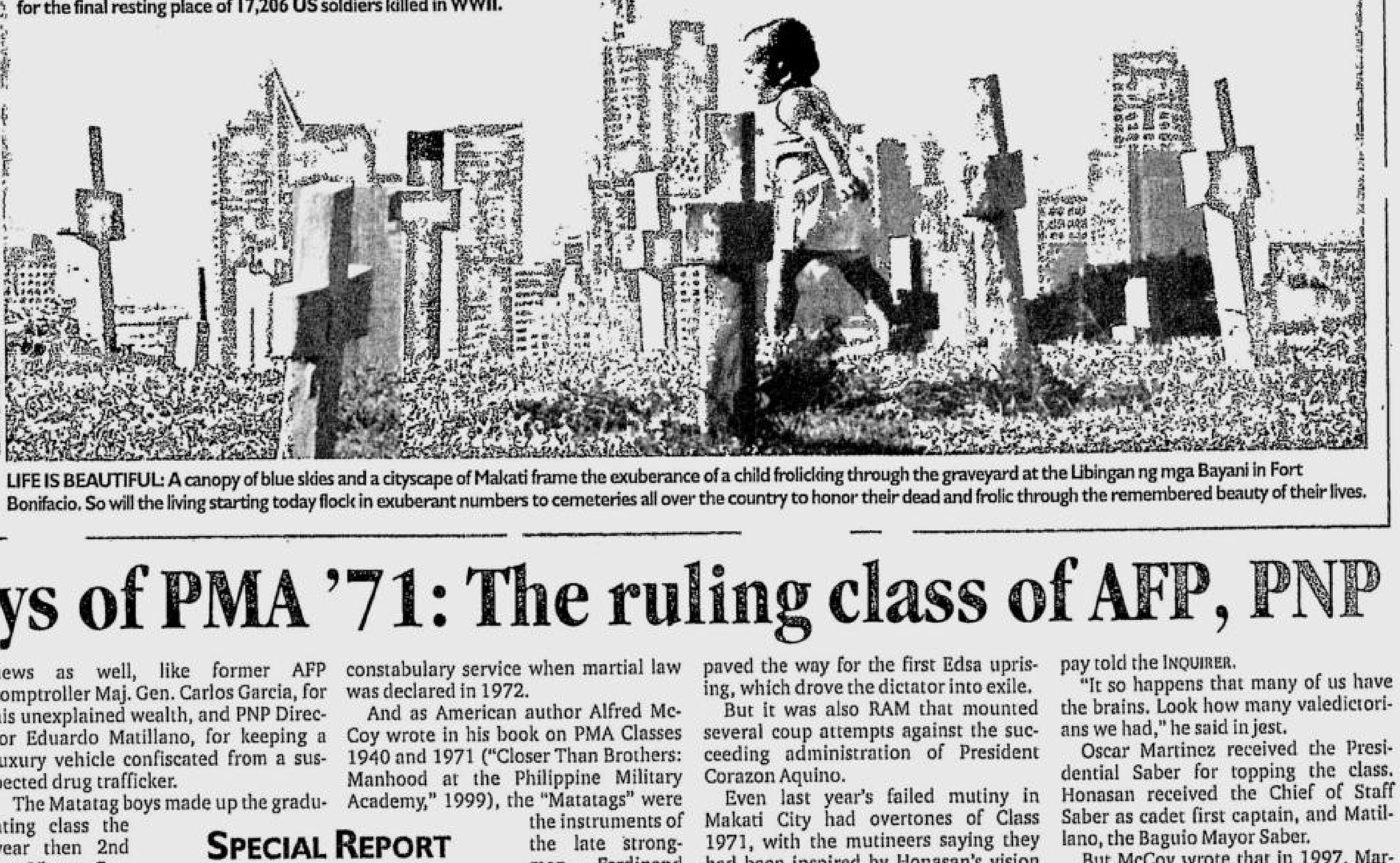
Many would regard cemetery caretakers as creepy or morbid creatures, a source of some amusement to Neese who in person is quite the opposite.

"They [caretakers] have that stigma. But I guess the difference is that this place is not just a cemetery but also a memorial. We don't have regular burials here. Everyone here is from the World War II era," he said.

The cemetery, over 61.5 hectares of gently rising ground on McKinley Road in the Fort Bonifacio development in Makati, is the final resting place of 17,206 Americans killed in the Western Pacific during World War II.

Neese heads a staff of one American assistant and 36 Filipinos, some of whom have been working in the cemetery for more than 20 years. Among them are several caretakers who handle the manual job of tending the plots.

LIVING/ A21


EDWIN BACASMAS

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL: A canopy of blue skies and a cityscape of Makati frame the exuberance of a child frolicking through the graveyard at the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Fort Bonifacio. So will the living starting today flock in exuberant numbers to cemeteries all over the country to honor their dead and frolic through the remembered beauty of their lives.

Matatag boys of PMA '71: The ruling class of AFP, PNP

By Frank Cimatu
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

SPECIAL REPORT

FORT DEL PILAR, Baguio City—The Philippine Military Academy's Matatag Class of 1971, the "ruling class" of the Armed Forces and Philippine National Police, is hogging the headlines these days.

It's not only because it has such luminaries as Gen. Narciso Abaya, the recently retired AFP chief of staff; PNP Director General Edgar Aglipay, Sen. Panfilo Lacson and Gregorio Honasan, a former senator and ex-rebel leader.

Other *mistahs* (classmates) are in the news as well, like former AFP comptroller Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia, for his unexplained wealth, and PNP Director Eduardo Matillano, for keeping a luxury vehicle confiscated from a suspected drug trafficker.

The Matatag boys made up the graduating class the year then 2nd Lt. Victor Corpus—now a retired military intelligence chief—raided the PMA armory in December 1970. (As a consequence, the then PMA superintendent, Brig. Gen. Aurelio Ugalde, was relieved.)

They were starting their military and constabulary service when martial law was declared in 1972.

And as American author Alfred McCoy wrote in his book on PMA Classes 1940 and 1971 ("Closer Than Brothers: Manhood at the Philippine Military Academy," 1999), the "Matatags" were the instruments of the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos in instilling terror among suspected dissidents.

In 1986, the Reform the Armed Forces Movement formed by Honasan and other Matatag members led the defections from the Marcos regime that paved the way for the first Edsa uprising, which drove the dictator into exile.

But it was also RAM that mounted several coup attempts against the succeeding administration of President Corazon Aquino.

Even last year's failed mutiny in Makati City had overtones of Class 1971, with the mutineers saying they had been inspired by Honasan's vision and the apparent incorruptibility of Vice Adm. Ruben Domingo, also a *mistah*.

How did the Matatag become omnipresent in Philippine affairs?

"If you look at the composition of the class, you will see why," the PNP's Aglipay told the INQUIRER.

"It so happens that many of us have the brains. Look how many valedictorians we had," he said in jest.

Oscar Martinez received the Presidential Saber for topping the class. Honasan received the Chief of Staff Saber as cadet first captain, and Matillano, the Baguio Mayor Saber.

But McCoy wrote that in 1997, Martinez was named the principal in the theft of P1.75 billion from the AFP pension fund. A lawyer, he is a retired colonel and now works as a consultant abroad.

MATATAG/ A4

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern and Eastern Luzon and Visayas including Palawan will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming widespread over Bicol Region. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy.
SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/10/31/04

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Partly Cloudy

Second **FRONTPAGE**

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RP backs hunt for Pinoy's abductors despite threat

By TJ Burgonio

DESPITE the threat by a splinter Taliban group to kill a Filipino diplomat and two other hostages unless security forces in Afghanistan called off their pursuit, the Philippines is backing a massive manhunt for the kidnappers.

"That's the means of terrorism—abduction. We condemn terrorism and we are in this effort to fight terrorism," Foreign Undersecretary Rafael Seguis told reporters after attending a meeting of the Crisis Management Committee of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Asked if the government supported the manhunt for the kidnappers, he said: "Of course. We rely on the authorities in Afghanistan."

The three hostages—Angelito Nayan of the Philippines, UK-Irish woman Annetta Flanigan and Kosovar woman Ishqipe Hebiba—had helped organize Afghanistan's first direct presidential election on Oct. 9. They were abducted on Thursday.

Afghan forces, backed by foreign peacekeepers, spread out Friday through a valley west of Kabul to hunt down the abductors, according to news reports from Afghanistan. Helicopters from the Nato-led International Security Assistance Force also helped in the search.

But Akbar Agha of the Taliban splinter group warned: "If the US and Afghan forces find our Mujahideen (holy warriors) during operations, we will kill them."

Iraq-style kidnappings

Members of a group called the Jaish-e-Muslimeen have claimed responsibility for the kidnappings.

The three hostages were part of the UN Assistance Mission to Afghanistan's (Unama's) Joint Electoral Committee which oversaw the elections, won by interim President Hamid Karzai.

The Associated Press, in a report from Kabul, said foreign aid workers had been warned to restrict their movements around the Afghan capital amid fears of Iraq-style threats following the abduction of the three UN election workers.

Police detained seven suspects for questioning over the kidnappings but investigators appeared no closer to establishing whether Taliban-linked militants or criminals were responsible.

After the kidnapping, staff of aid agencies were told to restrict all but essential movements around Kabul—which is patrolled by thousands of Nato peacekeepers, making it usually one of the safest places in the country.

"It's an ominous development," said Paul Barker of the aid group CARE International. "We've not seen this kind of incident in Kabul before and I think we are still trying to figure out if it is a new trend or a one-off. Until it's resolved, we won't really know."

Same commitment

Seguis said Ambassador Lauro Baja, Philippine permanent representative to the UN, had been closely coordinating with UN officials and bodies and had been sending updates to Manila.

The Philippine Embassy in Pakistan, which has diplomatic and consular jurisdiction over Afghanistan, is also keeping in close contact with the authorities and UN officials in Kabul on the progress of the efforts to seek the hostages' release.

Seguis said that while Nayan, 34, a foreign service officer IV, was on official leave from the DFA, the government was devoting the "same commitment" toward his safe release as in the case of Filipino truck Angelo de la Cruz.

UN Resident Coordinator in the Philippines Deborah Landey (left) and Foreign Undersecretary Rafael Seguis leave a meeting of the crisis management team that met yesterday to discuss the abduction of Filipino diplomat Angelito Nayan in Afghanistan. RYAN LIM

Solons say Abaya, officers to blame for AFP's image

By Carlito Pablo

LAWMAKERS yesterday lashed out at newly retired Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff Gen. Narciso Abaya for blaming politicians and the media for the bad image of the military.

Led by House Majority Leader Rep. Prospero Nograles, the congressmen said Abaya had only himself to blame for his failure to institute significant reforms in the military during his 19-month term at the top, particularly his supposed dilly-dallying on the case of suspended AFP comptroller Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia.

"Why blame the media and politicians? Does he expect the people to pretend nothing happened? Unfair," an incensed Nograles said in an interview.

He said Abaya should get angry instead at his "own people for damaging the AFP."

"It's the military whose hands got caught in the cookie jar. They are not above the law. It's their responsibility to reform their institution," Nograles said.

Rep. Marcelino Libanan (NPC, Eastern Samar) said Abaya used Congress and the media as "scapegoats for the AFP leadership's failure to punish Garcia and stop corruption in the Armed Forces, which has caused demoralization among the soldiers."

"The buck stops in retired General Abaya's office," said Libanan, a member of the powerful Commission on Appointments.

He recalled that Camp Aguinaldo had been made aware of the Garcia case as early as February 2004, "but it took the military eight months before putting him under house arrest."

"Clearly, there was no firm resolve on General Abaya's part to get to the bottom of the Garcia case and punish all those involved in the corruption scandal," Libanan said.

Rep. Mayo Almario (Lakas, Davao Oriental) said Abaya should be "humble enough to admit his shortcomings."

"General Abaya still has to explain why the Garcia case was treated lightly or why the AFP failed to implement a recommendation by the Feliciano Commission to reform the procurement system in the Armed Forces to eliminate corruption," he said.

Rep. Roilo Golez (Kampi, Parañaque City) waxed rhetoric in responding to Abaya.

"I shall leave him alone in his moment of reverie as he rides into the sunset of his military career to ponder who is damaging the image of the AFP," said Golez, chair of the House committee on national defense.

"Was it the small group of corrupt generals, past and present, who had methodically and systematically raided the AFP treasury, or those lawmakers who want such shenanigans exposed?" he said.

Last week, Golez said his committee would continue its investigation into graft and corruption in the military despite calls by House leaders to terminate the probe as the cases against Garcia before the different courts had started to move forward.

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. yesterday advised the media to ignore the remarks of Abaya on Friday because "it is the last gasp of a military officer ending his career in a miasma of corruption."

Meanwhile, Malacañang yesterday urged critics of Abaya to give the former AFP chief of staff a chance to prove his mettle as head of the Bases Conversion Development Authority, particularly in the eviction of retired generals living on the disputed P12-billion Joint US Military Advisory Group property in Fort Bonifacio. *With Michael Lim Ubac and Gil Cabacungan Jr.*

Strong quake hits Zambales

AN INTENSE earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter Scale shook Central Luzon early Saturday but caused no damage, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said.

The quake, which was tectonic in origin, struck at 3:28 a.m. with its epicenter off the coast about 121 km northwest of Iba, Zambales.

Few people noticed the quake as it was located too far out to sea, the Phivolcs said, adding that no aftershocks were expected.

Although about five earthquakes hit the Philippines every day, few if any are felt and only three major destructive tremors have been recorded in more than 30 years, the institute said. *AFP*

Nene to Abu: Sweep up corruption

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE NEW Armed Forces chief of staff should use the "power of the broom" to cleanse the military's backyard of corruption, Senate Minority Leader Aquilino "Nene" Pimentel Jr. said yesterday.

Pimentel said Lt. Gen. Efren Abu's appointment has given him "a golden opportunity to crack down on what appears to be systemic corruption in the AFP."

And he can do this by "using the broom to cleanse the backyard of the AFP," the senator said in an interview.

Pimentel said Abu's first order—the abolition the J-6 (comptrollership) post formerly held by Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia—was "at this point purely symbolic."

"Unless General Abu follows through decisively to identify the corrupt officers, whoever they might be," the erosion of people's trust in the military establishment would continue, the senator warned.

Garcia is under investigation by the Ombudsman for alleged unexplained wealth. He is also facing charges before a court-martial for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and conduct prejudicial to military discipline.

Pimentel said it remained to be seen if Abu would be any different from his predecessors. He noted that retired Chief of Staff Gen. Narciso Abaya himself had been expected to reform the AFP when he assumed its helm 19 months ago.

Avoid the rich, powerful, Aglipay tells PNP execs

By Tonette Orejas, *PDI Central Luzon Desk* **and Marlon Ramos,** *PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—Avoid the rich and powerful.

This was the advice of Philippine National Police Director Edgar Aglipay to regional and police directors at last Friday's command conference with Ilocos, Cagayan, Cordillera and Central Luzon PNP officials.

Aglipay also asked the police officials to spend less time in their offices and devote more time to their policemen in the field and their respective communities.

"If you're just in your office or you're often in the company of your governors and rich friends, nothing will happen to the PNP. Let us be with our people," he said.

By that, Aglipay meant "staying out, eating with cops, making them feel you are one of them, joining the patrols, setting examples, being passionate in doing your job."

He cautioned police officials not to pay lip service to the job. "Walk the beat," he said. "That's the only way we can get the respect of our people."

Aglipay also urged his subordinates to be more accessible to the media. "Why? Because that's how it should be. We are transparent. We're hiding nothing," he said.

Taking a dig at the scandal that has rocked the Armed Forces, Aglipay said: "If the media are not allowed to cover us, they might think we're talking here of (fund) conversion."

All these changes, he said, would be for the PNP's "quest to bring back the respect of our citizens."

At Camp Vicente Lim in Laguna, Aglipay exhorted policemen to lead simple lives and avoid controversy in the wake of allegations of graft and corruption in the military.

"As public servants, (police) should live simply. Let us help the government (to) save funds. We should also set as example to the public," he told police officers.

He said he himself has avoided wearing "excessive jewelry" and using police highway patrol units as escorts whenever he travels.

Instead of the officer's uniform, Aglipay said he decided to use the uniform used by ordinary policemen "to show you that I am proud to be a police officer like you."

Aglipay also told reporters that there was no conversion of funds at the PNP, saying that every single centavo was being spent as allocated.

But he urged journalists to help the police in documenting alleged corruption in the PNP.

"It is a good thing that you are here and that you ask questions regarding the funds. You see, we have nothing to hide here," he told members of the media.

Finance officers of regional police units presented financial records to show how they had spent the money allocated to their respective offices.

STARRY STARRY NIGHT
After the plastic pumpkins of Halloween come the capiz lanterns of Christmas. Hand-painted for a stained-glass effect, they're already on sale on the streets. JOSEPH AGCAOILI

Boracay resort owners urged to use gov't treatment facilities

By Jerome Aning

AS VACATIONERS flocked to Boracay for the long weekend, the Philippine Tourism Authority yesterday asked hotel and resort owners to use the government's fully operational water and sewage treatment plants on the island in order to protect its environment.

In a statement, PTA general manager and chief executive officer Robert Dean Barbers urged establishments on Boracay to avail themselves of the PTA's water and sewage treatment plants in order to save the idyllic island from environmental degradation before it's too late.

The PTA recently completed the Boracay Environmental Infrastructure Project (BEIP) with the objective of improving and expanding the island's water supply and sewage facilities.

Barbers said the water and sewage treatment plants would support and sustain a master development plan that would enhance the viability of Boracay as a world-class tourist destination and, at the same time, maintain its environment and cultural assets.

Barbers said, however, that so far less than half of the commercial establishments on Boracay were connected to the government's centralized treatment plants.

"The irony of it all is that the government is totally supportive of the resort owners on Boracay, but most of them ignore this privilege," he said.

Barbers said that based on the BEIP report, only 40 percent of the resort and hotel owners availed themselves of the waste water treatment facilities, while only 25-30 percent were connected to the PTA's potable water supply.

He said the problem with majority of the business establishments on Boracay was that their septic tanks were dangerously close to one another.

"What is more alarming is that their underground water extraction facilities or deep wells, which are their source of potable water, are located within the proximity of their septic tanks. That practice [could] lead to a disastrous tourism nightmare for Boracay," Barbers said.

Boracay experienced a setback in tourist arrivals in 1997 when it was reported that its source of drinking water had been contaminated by coliform bacteria that exceeded allowable limits.

An investigation was conducted to look for the source of the contamination. It concluded that the inadequate septic and sewage treatment plants on the island were to blame.

Nowadays, the PTA checks up on the hotels' and resorts' potable water supply every other day to assure patrons of safe drinking water.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has threatened to cancel environmental compliance certificates and close establishments unless resort owners complied with the DENR directive to put up septic tanks and connect them to the PTA's sewage treatment plant.

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SMART and gift gate celebrate Hello Kitty's 30th Birthday

Purr-fectly cute
Perfectly SMART
HELLO KITTY
Hello Kitty Vespa
©1976 SANRIO CO.,LTD
SMART
Benetton Luggage Set
Russ Gift Set
LEGO CD Player

Hello Kitty: proud to be SMART

Who would've noticed that it's been exactly 30 years since Hello Kitty-mania hit our shores back in 1974; a time when almost every little girl's bedroom was adorned with every replica imaginable of the cute white feline—from dolls to rubber figures, pencil cases to lunch boxes. Hello Kitty can accurately be described as an icon for baby boomers of the past 3 decades and having said that, it's only appropriate that both SMART and Gift Gate pay homage to one of the most popular and influential characters ever created.

With Purr-fect Pick-A-Prize, you can win instant prizes such as Sanrio, Swatch, Russ, Benetton or Lego products at any participating Gift Gate branch. There are 3 ways to get a Purr-fect Pick-A-Prize. You can either buy a SMART Buddy Super SIM 3 and register by texting REG space <name><address><age> and send to 306. Alternatively, you can also SIM SWAP to SMART Buddy Super SIM 3 and load P30 only. Or, you can BuddyLoad or Talk 'N TextLoad P30, P60 or P115 at any Gift Gate participating branch.

In the Purr-fect Raffle, SMART subscribers get a chance to win a one-of-a-kind Hello Kitty Vespa or Gift Gate Collectibles in the grand draw. Raffle prizes include a Benetton Luggage Set, Russ Gift Set, Lego CD Player and more. To qualify, simply register once for free and download any Gift Gate logo, picture message or MMS wallpaper. The more downloads, the more chances of winning. Just key in REG <NAME><ADDDRESS><AGE> and send to 306. To get a list of Hello Kitty services, text KITTY to 306.

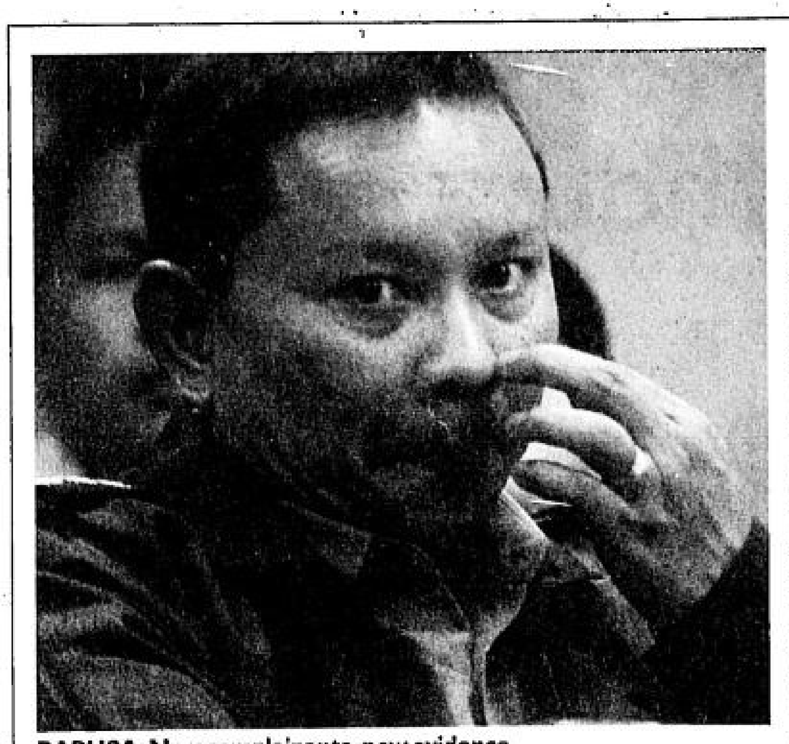
For the Purr-fect Gift for your SMART Kid, simply apply for a SMART Kid line at any Gift Gate store and get a Purr-fect Gift free! All approved SMART Kid Plan 300 and Plan 600 will get free Gift Gate Collectibles, like Hello Kitty Food Container Sets or Lego Knights Kingdom Figures and Hello Kitty Beauty Sets or Lego Bionicle Figure respectively.

Other Purr-fect offers to celebrate Hello Kitty's 30th birthday include the Purr-fect Discount, which entitles SMART Gold and SMART Money card holders to 10% off on cash purchases and 5% off on credit card and SMART Money transactions. The SMART & Gift Gate Purr-fectly Cute, Perfectly SMART promo runs until December 15, 2004, so expect even more fun ideas like the Purr-fect Design-A-Tee which runs until November 30, 2004, where the best t-shirt design of SMART Hello Kitty, SMART Kid Hello Kitty, SMART Buddy Hello Kitty, SMART Gold Hello Kitty and Addict Mobile Hello Kitty wins you fantastic prizes, as well as Purr-fect Party coming soon—all part of Hello Kitty's big 30th birthday bash!

SMART
Simply Amazing!

30
HELLO KITTY

Happy Birthday, Hello Kitty!. Hello Kitty surrounded by her adoring fans on her 30th



RABUSA: New complainants, new evidence.

Graft raps filed vs Garcia budget officer

By Fe Zamora

THE OMBUDSMAN on Friday filed graft charges against former comptroller budget officer Army Lt. Col. George Rabusa in connection with his unexplained wealth estimated to be P50 million.

An Ombudsman lawyer said Rabusa was not only suspended for six months, forfeiture proceedings were being readied on his assets and properties, which include cash deposits with the Armed Forces and Police Savings and Loans Association (AFP-SLAI) and other banks, houses in Sta. Ana, Parañaque, Batangas and Taguig, and several vehicles under his name, his wife Debbie's and other relatives.

The case against Rabusa was "officially reopened" last Friday based on new evidence gathered, the lawyer who requested anonymity, told the INQUIRER.

The filing of new charges against Rabusa coincided with new Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Efren Abu's campaign to stamp out corruption in the military.

"Graft and corruption have no place in our ranks," Abu said in his address after taking over the post from Gen. Narciso Abaya, who retired Friday upon reaching the age of 56.

"There are new complainants. In fact, there are two of them. And there is new evidence," the lawyer said.

Initial charges against the colonel were dropped by the Ombudsman in February last year for lack of sufficient evidence after the Rabusa couple produced documents explaining where their assets had come from.

Rabusa was the budget officer of former AFP comptroller Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia, who also faces a court-martial for charges of unexplained wealth estimated at P200 million.

Garcia was served his charge sheet last the week, and was given until Wednesday to reply. He was also slapped with a six-month suspension starting Sept. 27.

Rabusa was relieved from his post as operations officer of the Central Command in Cebu two weeks ago to give him time to attend the House defense committee hearings on the case of Garcia.

But last Saturday, the AFP leadership placed him under house arrest.

Armed Forces spokesperson Maj. Gen. Edilberto Adan said Rabusa could move around only under guard and with the permission of Camp Aguinaldo commander Brig. Gen. Alexander Aleo.

Matatag boys of PMA '71: The ruling class of AFP, PNP

From page A1

In a press conference during the PMA's 106th anniversary on Oct. 23, Abaya was annoyed when asked about Class 1971 and Major General Garcia, who is facing corruption charges.

"I don't think we should talk about classes," he said. "Classes have nothing to do with it. It's just coincidence."

"Remember that it was a Class '71 [member] who started the investigation against a Class '71 [member]," he said, referring to himself as the former.

In a speech to the cadets, Abaya said idealism in the PMA was not a bad thing.

"On not a few occasions, I have been asked why the PMA trains our cadets in a vacuum. And it has been espoused by some that it is the PMA's ideal environment that should be blamed for deceptively conditioning the minds of the cadets, and subsequently its graduates, that everything exists in black and white," he said, adding:

"It is made to be such in order for you to develop the proper values and work ethic, with the hope that [these] will be carried through when the going gets tough, when the circumstances are not so perfect, and when others exhibit a character of a different mold."

108 members

The Matatag Class numbered 108 at its graduation on March 28, 1971—the first time a PMA class had more than 100 graduates. Marcos, as keynote speaker, called on the class to fight the "communist conspiracy."

Matatag said in its yearbook that it would "forever continue the metaphorical march forward, undelayed and unbowed in its quest of producing the leaders of this nation.

"And as the academy marches on, out of step at times, but still marching on, it will always carry on with its proud heritage, uphold its glorious traditions, maintain its noble standard, and above all, accomplish its mission," it said.

In comparing PMA Classes 1940 and 1971, McCoy wrote that the members of Class 1940 exemplified the selflessness then of the military, which put itself under civilian rule.

He wrote—in the book and in succeeding essays—that members of Class 1971 projected themselves as "heroes," and thus were the antitheses of members of Class 1940, who fought in World War II.

Torture

According to McCoy, President Manuel Quezon viewed the military as important in keeping the young republic safe from invasion, while Marcos politicized it and allowed some of the members of Class 1971 to torture political dissidents.

In a way, wrote McCoy, the interest of the Matatag in torture may have come from the fact that its members were not subjected to hazing when they were plebes.

A CLASS unto themselves, PMA Class '71 at the academy in Baguio, when the world was young and carefree and ideal and everything was either black or white.

Unfair accusation

But Class 1971 historian Rolando Malinis said this was "a serious and unfair accusation" because only four Matatag members may have been involved in the torture of political dissidents.

Another point of interest is that Senator Lacson and General Garcia had had no combat experience, while three of their *mistahs* died fighting in Mindanao a few years after graduation.

Lacson, also implicated in the Kuratong Baleleng rubout, was the first in the class to become a general.

Personality cult

The class produced at least 43 generals—eight in the Army, 11 in the Air Force, three in the Navy and 21 in the PNP.

The Matatag may now be the "ruling class" of the AFP and PNP but, as McCoy pointed out and with the scandals involving Garcia and Matillano, it has also become the symbol of what ails the military.

Aglipay, however, does not agree with McCoy's thesis that Matatag is ruled by the "cult of personality," particularly that of Honasan and, lately, Lacson.

Aglipay said the past and present controversies involving Matatag members were merely incidental.

"They made their own choices and they are capable of defending themselves," he said.

He also said his *mistahs* were not fractious but were independent-minded.

"It's the composition of the class that will explain why some of us were involved in national issues then," he said.

Where are they now?

Zosimo Paredes, who served as an assemblyman of Ifugao in the Marcos-era Batasang Pambansa, was the first Matatag member to enter politics.

Marciano Paynor, formerly of the Constabulary, joined the foreign service and is now consul general in Los Angeles.

Nine others are in government service. Many are successful in civilian life, like Iloilo banker Eduardo "Red" Kapunan, a former RAM leader and Honasan's best friend in the PMA, and seven ex-Air Force members who became commercial pilots.

But a source close to a top Matatag member said the mistahs in the PNP—who were not part of the RAM or the coup attempts that brought notoriety to Class 1971—had cliques even during their PMA days.

"They are not closer than brothers," the source said, adding that there were at least three factions in the PNP identified with Matatag.

The difference

McCoy wrote that members of Class 1940, despite becoming war heroes, abstained for the most part from partisan politics and the coup attempts in the 1950s, while members of Class 1971 were "willing" henchmen of Marcos but led the defections that brought down the dictatorship.

He said the corrosive effects of politicization on military socialization and professionalism spelled the difference between Classes 1940 and 1971.

But Malinis insisted: "There is no basic difference between Classes '40 and '71 or any other classes of the academy.

"The character values go with the Cavaliers as they leave the portals of the academy. 'Courage, Integrity and Loyalty,' permeate the minds and souls of the Cavaliers. State leaders and other outside factors may lead them to react in different ways, but still all in consonance with these values."

Corrections

IN THE Oct. 22 front page story "PMA alumni condemn graft in the military," the name of PMA alumni chairman Stif Munasque was misspelled as Stif Onasque.

* * *

In the front page caption story on Thursday, Oct. 28, the name of Lt. Col. Romeo Tanalgo was misspelled as Lt. Col. Romeo Tenalgo.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to Gerry Lirio, city editor, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City; fax Nos. 897-4793/94; e-mail addresses:glirio@inquirer.com.ph and daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent to Raul Palabrica, readers' advocate, the same address and fax numbers as those of the city editor, and e-mail address:rpalabrica@inquirer.com.ph.

Army hospital chief sacked for using old medicines

From page A1

Bunye also noted that the Department of National Defense was the agency responsible for the military's supplies.

Ongoing due process

The relief and investigation of Yu was carried out on recommendation of the Army's Inspector General, Pascual told reporters.

Quoting information from the Army, Pascual said Yu was relieved and investigated "for gross misconduct in relation to misappropriation of PHIC refunds, allowing the use of spurious ORs (official receipts) and willfully allowing utilization of expired medicine... [and] to determine his suitability and fitness to remain in the active military service."

Yu's case is now with the Army's Efficiency and Separation Board, which investigates allegations against individual Army men and hands down appropriate sanctions.

"These are allegations that are still under investigation. The process is ongoing and due process is being followed," Pascual said.

If found liable, Yu could face dishonorable discharge—meaning he would be separated from the service without his benefits.

5 complainants sanctioned

Pascual said that "for the hospital to function properly," Col. Reynaldo Ireneo Lipat had been named as Yu's replacement.

According to Pascual, the Inspector General also imposed administrative sanctions on five civilian hospital personnel who had complained against Yu.

The five were relieved of their duties "to pave the way for an impartial investigation while the inquiry is ongoing," he said.

Pascual said the sanctions were imposed because the complainants did not follow the proper procedures.

"Even if the allegations are found to have been valid, [they were meted] administrative sanctions for not following the proper channels. So to make the hospital function continuously while the investigation is ongoing, the five were transferred out of the hospital," Pascual said.

He said the complainants should have gone through the Army hierarchy instead of taking their complaint to the then defense secretary and the then AFP chief of staff.

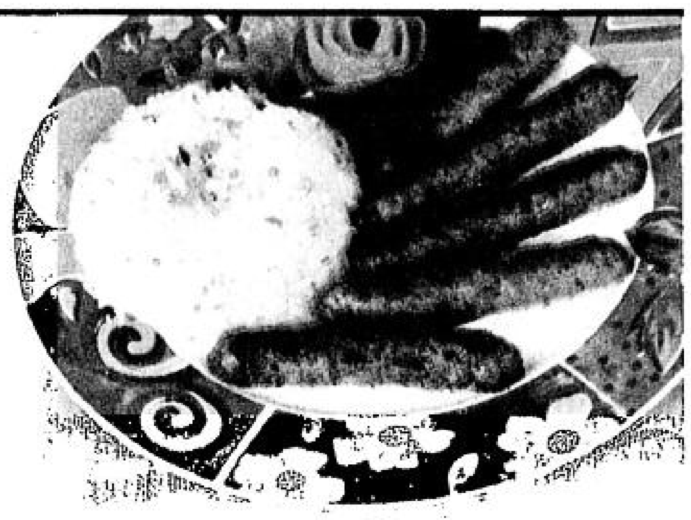
Prosecute, not persecute

"In its continuing thrust of reforms in weeding its ranks of misfits, the Philippine Army is throwing the book at all its personnel who willfully disregard the rule of law," Pascual said.

"It welcomes any investigation on alleged corruption among its personnel. The Army, however, reminds all concerned bodies 'to prosecute but not to persecute,'" he said. *With a report from Gil Cabacungan Jr.*

Mekeni Food Corporation

From Selling 'Ice Candy' to Making Meat Products of World-class Quality



Humble beginnings

Mekeni Food Corporation began in 1986 as a home-based chicharon and tocino enterprise of husband and wife Felix M. Garcia and Medicia L. Santos, two public school teachers from Barrio Balubad, Porac, Pampanga. But the business spans over two decades earlier, when the couple, assisted by their five sons – Adrian, Pruds, Lito, Doods and Nards, ventured into backyard poultry and piggery to augment the meager family income. With a loan and some savings on hand, the family starting out with 100 chicken heads, a pen, and two piglets. The children, school kids then, also engaged in selling 'ice candy' and chicken eggs within the neighborhood and at the nearby palengke (public market).

Everyone, especially the boys, had a hand in the business – from cleaning the pen, mixing the feeds to gathering the eggs. At daybreak- as early as four in the morning, the family would be up doing their chores and the boys would get ready to deliver the eggs to the market right before

During this period, the backyard enterprise started to flourish, becoming a full-blown family business that allowed the Garcias to slaughter pigs regularly during weekends. Years later, the livestock venture expanded into chicharon and tocino making, ushering the birth of Mekeni Meat Products.

Growing up years

The meat business was a great help for Felix and Miding to send their five boys to college, without which they would not have been able to do so had they relied on their low government salaries alone.

The couple's perseverance, hard work, and commitment to God and family soon paid off, enabling eldest son Adrian to finish an agriculture course, major in animal science, in 1977. He later worked in the United States for a meat processing business.

Pruds and Lito, who both finished accounting, cum laude, turned out to become certified public accountants. Pruds got a good-paying job as audit manager of Saudi Arabia's largest cement company, while Lito also worked in the Middle East kingdom for three years as cost accountant. Doods and Nards soon earned college degrees for themselves. Both finished business administration, major in accounting and marketing, respectively.

Rising from the ashes of Pinatubo

The 1991 Mt. Pinatubo eruption adversely affected the family business and wrought damage to many homes in Porac, Pampanga, leaving many displaced families to seek temporary shelter in public school buildings. One of these evacuation centers was the elementary school where Felix taught, located in front of his house.

Having pity after seeing the helplessness of the evacuees, he was struck with the burden of giving them jobs or a more sustainable form of livelihood, not justrelying on limited government dole out. And so, he summoned his sons, three of whom were abroad at the time enjoying a life of comfort – with stable, high-paying jobs - to get back home and help revive not only their slumped meat business but also rehabilitate their lahar-ravaged community.

"You were born and raised here, schooled in this very town. Why do you have to offer your services to other countries?" goes a poignant letter of Felix to his sons, pleading for compassion for their suffering kabalen (provincemates).

"Tatang's letter was powerful and affected me a lot," Pruds recalled. "It was like cold water splashed on my face at four in the morning. It woke me up! I felt I had a responsibility to fulfill towards my own community."

The first thing the Garcias did when they returned home was to hire 30 qualified people from Balubad to help sustain the meat venture. They made sure each worker was treated like a member of the family, giving them a place and significant role to play in the company.

Dedication, teamwork and drive for excellence were still the underlying principles that govern the processing of their meat products. Wholeheartedly they toiled, striving to earn a fair share of the market, for they knew this was their way of rising from the ashes Mt. Pinatubo brought on them.

Aiming to become world-class

The company would relentlessly study the competition's every move and tried to surpass it. "We would go and buy products from competitors just to see how our products fared. We would conduct taste tests to see if theirs were delicious. And if they tasted good, we made sure ours should taste better," said Adrian Garcia, now MFC's corporate secretary.

Ten years after reviving the business, Mekeni Food Corporation. got a shot in the arm when it secured in 2001 a soft-term loan from the Development Bank of the Philippines that could be paid in 10 years and with a grace period of two years. With this financial assistance, the company was able to develop a property in the heart of Balubad, from where it put up its modern meat processing factory.

Today, MFC flourishes with its multi-million peso, job-creating achievements not only for its owners but for the whole community as well. It employs close to 600 workers, 70 percent of whom hail from the barrio.

The company's industrial unit in Porac stands out as a Class "AAA" meat processing plant, one of only few factories north of Manila given such merit. Since it begun operation early 2003, the plant has garnered numerous government awards and recognitions for its adherence to food safety, environmental protection, good manufacturing practices, and many other criteria.

From a market confined only to central Luzon, its distribution network has widened, spanning from northern Luzon to Metro Manila and down to Bicol. Recently, it has established a foothold in the Visayas and Mindanao, and soon, the overseas market.

By all standards, the company has already become world-class, a source of pride not only for Pampanga but for the entire nation as well. The feat is attained not in an instant, or by magic, but through the Garcia family's long years of hard work, discipline, determination and adherence to strong family values.

As patriarch Felix, now 77 years old, says: "The success of a business is just a reflection of the kind of family that runs it." ■

Tatang Felix and Imang Meding

> "The success of a business is just a reflection of the kind of family that runs it."

Bringing Home the Bacon

MFC Bags Best Meat Establishment Award

Mekeni Food Corporation (MFC) is a central Luzon-based meat processing firm owned and operated by the Garcia family from Porac, Pampanga. From a small, home-borne enterprise almost 20 years ago, it has become a world-class business entity admired not only by the province from where it operates but also by government regulators and its peer in the highly competitive meat processing industry.

Its performance as an outstanding meat establishment is attested by the National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS) of the Department of Agriculture when it awarded MFC last Oct. 22 the distinction of being the Best Meat Processing Plant for 2004 in the "AAA" Category.

Five other finalists had been chosen during the annual competition conducted with the support of the Inter-Agency Committee on Meat Establishment, Amenities and Technology composed of the Department of Health, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and the Department of Interior and Local Governments. But after a tight screening, Mekeni emerged as the final winner. Mekeni's success did not come because the people who run it employed unconventional management strategies to pursue their objectives. Rather, it is attained and sustained because its owners and managers strongly adhere to business and ethical standards, apply their entrepreneurial skills effectively, dedicate themselves to product and manufacturing excellence, treat their employees as family members, and commit themselves to share their blessings to the community and for God's glory.

A glaring indication of how well the company is run can be seen in the way its meat processing plant in Barrio Balubad, Porac, operates. Inside the fully-air conditioned facility are newly-acquired state-of-the-art equipment and machineries that produce various meat products per day, such as hotdogs, tocino, longanisa, ham and bacon. The production uses the latest technology and maximizes efficiency, allowing the plant to produce best quality foods at very affordable prices.

National Winner. Mekeni Food Corporation officials beam with pride as they receive the award at the Bureau of Soils auditorium in Quezon City on October 22, 2004. From left are Adrian S. Garcia - VP for Operations, Rheah B. Garcia - wife of the MFC President, Doods S. Garcia - MFC President, Pruds S. Garcia - VP Finance & Administration, Dr. Efren C. Nuestro - NMIS Executive Director, Felix M. Garcia - MFC Founder, Dr. Minda Manantan - NMIS Deputy Director, and Dr. Fernando N. Lontoc.

Here, some 600 office and plant employees do their job under an almost perfect working condition even top companies in Makati and Ortigas Center could only dream of. There's pipe-in music. A modern office complete with board room and conference room and canteen. There are even upscale and well-maintained rest rooms for employees whose description befit only those found in first class hotels.

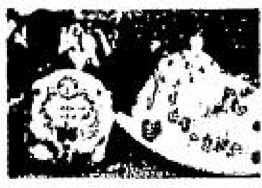
Food safety and observance of good manufacturing practices are strictly enforced in every stage of meat processing. Workers are provided with suitable working attire with color coding to facilitate control of flow from raw to cooked area and to prevent cross-contamination. Entry points to the processing area have foot bath with sanitizers to control entry of microorganisms.

All incoming meat deliveries are inspected to conform to raw material specifications prior to acceptance. Each batch of meat products are checked by quality assurance personnel to comply to finished product standards. All finished goods even pass through metal detection, strict line monitoring, and chemical and microbial checking before they leave the factory.

So stringent are Mekeni's meat handling and processing standards that NMIS had given the company HACCP accreditation. HACCP, or Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point, is a system that identifies, evaluates, and controls biological, chemical and physical hazards that are significant to food safety. In simple terms, getting HACCP accreditation authorizes Mekeni to sell its products both for the local and overseas market, a privilege given only to a handful meat processors in the country today.

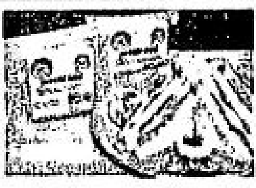
"MFC more than qualifies to be a Triple A meat processing plant. If ever there is a higher classification for meat establishments, we at NMIS are willing to place Mekeni in that category," remarked NMIS executive director Efren C. Nuestro, after conducting an inspection of the plant recently. ■

Mekeni
Food
Corporation
adjudged
National
Winner
in the
2004 Search for
Best Meat
Processing Plant
in the "AAA"
Category

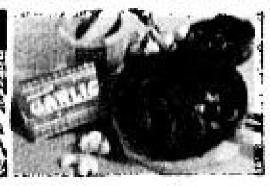


American Ham

Chummy Footlong



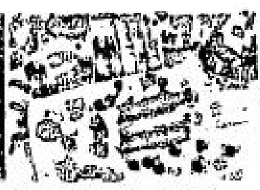
Cooked Ham



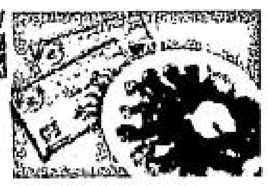
Garlic Longaniza

Native Longaniza

Picnic Cheezy

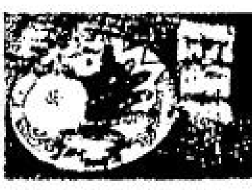


Picnic Hotdog Red



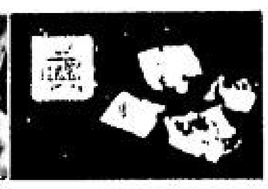
Premium Bacon

Premium Pork Tocino



Skinless Longaniza

Sliced Bologna



Sweet Ham

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GMA cites 10 top RP students

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo recently handed out awards to this year's Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines at Malacañang's Ceremonial Hall.

The awards were the culmination of the rigorous annual search for the country's 10 top students who had distinguished themselves not only academically but for their leadership qualities, high moral values and deep commitment to community service undertaken by the RFM Foundation headed by its chair Jose S. Concepcion Jr. and RFM Corp. president and CEO Jose Concepcion III.

This year's awardees were Alexander Edward C. Drilon, cum laude, Medicine, University of the Philippines; Rockwell Grey S. Bennett, cum laude, Physical Therapy, Riverside College, Bacolod City; Mark Lester L. Altoveros, magna cum laude, Physics, University of the Philippines, Los Baños; Charlotte Kendra G. Castillo, summa cum laude, Physics, Ateneo de Manila University; Primitivo Paypon Jr., summa cum laude, Biology, University of St. La Salle-Bacolod; Jennifer L. Digaum, magna cum laude, Electrical Engineering, Mindanao State University, Marawi City;

Karen Joy P. Nomorosa, summa cum laude, Computer Science, De La Salle University; Ruth Jade M. Canlas, magna cum laude, Chemical Engineering, Technological Institute of the Philippines; Jennifer P. Teves, summa cum laude, Psychology, Assumption College; Jose I. Bas Jr., magna cum laude, Business Administration, Ateneo de Naga University, and Lea Janice R. Sicat, magna cum laude, Elementary Education, St. Paul University, Dumaguete City. Sicat delivered the awardees' response.

The idea for the TOSP search began with a quote from Dr. Jose Rizal: "The youth is the hope of the fatherland."

RFM Foundation chair Jose Concepcion Jr. took the national hero's immortal words to form the seed from which grew the search for The Outstanding Students of the Philippines in 1961.

Other entities that support TOSP are the Commission on Higher Education, the Rotary Club and National Bookstore.

THE COUNTRY'S top students received their trophies from President Arroyo (center). They are, from left, Lea Janice Sicat, Charlotte Kendra Castillo, Ruth Jade Canlas, Alexander Edward Drilon, Karen Joy Nomorosa, Jennifer Teves, Jennifer Digaum, Mark Lester Altoveros, Primitivo Paypon Jr. and Jose Bas Jr.

Opposition accepts reconciliation offer

ALMOST SIX months after the bitterly contested elections in May, the opposition has finally agreed to accept the offer of reconciliation extended by President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Malacañang said yesterday the President's offer to reconcile with the opposition had been "positively received" by Sen. Edgardo Angara and the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino which campaigned for opposition presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr.

"We have received reports that Senator Angara gave a positive reception to the President's latest move to offer her hand of unity and reconciliation," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye in an interview over RMN radio.

On Wednesday, Ms Arroyo said: "I have invited Sen. Edgardo J. Angara and the party he heads—LDP—to join me in forging a covenant of national unity."

Bunye said Angara would consult his LDP members first before presenting the party's formal response to the President's offer.

But Bunye declined to comment when asked if Malacañang would offer government positions to Angara and other members of the opposition should they agree to accept her reconciliatory hand.

"This is for unity and principle and but we cannot talk of the details because we have to wait for their party's official response," Bunye said.

The President made her peace offer to Angara shortly after designating former Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr. as special envoy and senior adviser on economic affairs and development through Administrative Order No. 107.

Guingona resigned from the President's Cabinet last year due to differences on foreign policy and supported Poe's candidacy in the May elections. *Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.*

Passage of 'sin' taxes in the bag, says Palace

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

MALACAÑANG yesterday expressed confidence that the passage of the proposed higher taxes on cigarettes and alcohol products was in the bag although the Senate had barely started deliberations on the revenue measure.

"Our tax reform package is moving forward with the assured passage of the so-called sin taxes," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye in a statement.

The House approved on Thursday a bill raising taxes on cigarettes and alcohol by 20 percent in 2005 and three percent annually in 2006 and 2007. But the Senate, which will only start its public hearing on the sin taxes this week, has frowned on the House version as being too low and is pushing for a more drastic hike in taxes on cigarettes and alcohol.

President Macapagal-Arroyo had met with the top executives of Fortune Tobacco Corp. and Philip Morris Philippines Monday night at her Forbes Park residence and managed to get the two dominant players' support for her compromise formula of a 12-percent and 40-centavo hike in taxes next year.

The President's hands-on approach in ensuring the swift passage of the sin tax bill, the first of eight tax measures her administration is lobbying for in Congress, has been praised by some businessmen but jeered by lawmakers who described it as railroading.

But Malacañang seemed unperturbed. "A strong executive-legislative partnership is shaping up behind President Arroyo. This boosts our hopes that the entire tax package will be raised in due time," Bunye said.

Commenting on the House approval, Bunye noted that the market's reaction to the approval of the sin tax bill was "swift and very positive," with the peso gaining ground, the stock market rising to a three-week high, and the country's borrowing rate narrowing to its best level in five months.

"The ball is in the court of the Senate. We are hoping the Senate will act with equal dispatch on this measure," Bunye said. "Early action by the Senate will move us closer to our goal of stabilizing our economy."

The President has decided to take a personal approach in the passage of the sin tax bill to avert a possible credit downgrade that could plunge the country deeper into a fiscal crisis.

The government wants to have at least two of its eight tax measures approved by yearend to retain investor confidence in the President's leadership.

Supply of pork, chicken assured

By Carlito Pablo

DESPITE the difficult times, the government yesterday assured the public there will be an adequate supply of pork, beef and chicken during the Christmas holidays.

The assurance of an abundant supply of these basic food items was made by the Department of Agriculture in a budget hearing last week by the House appropriations committee.

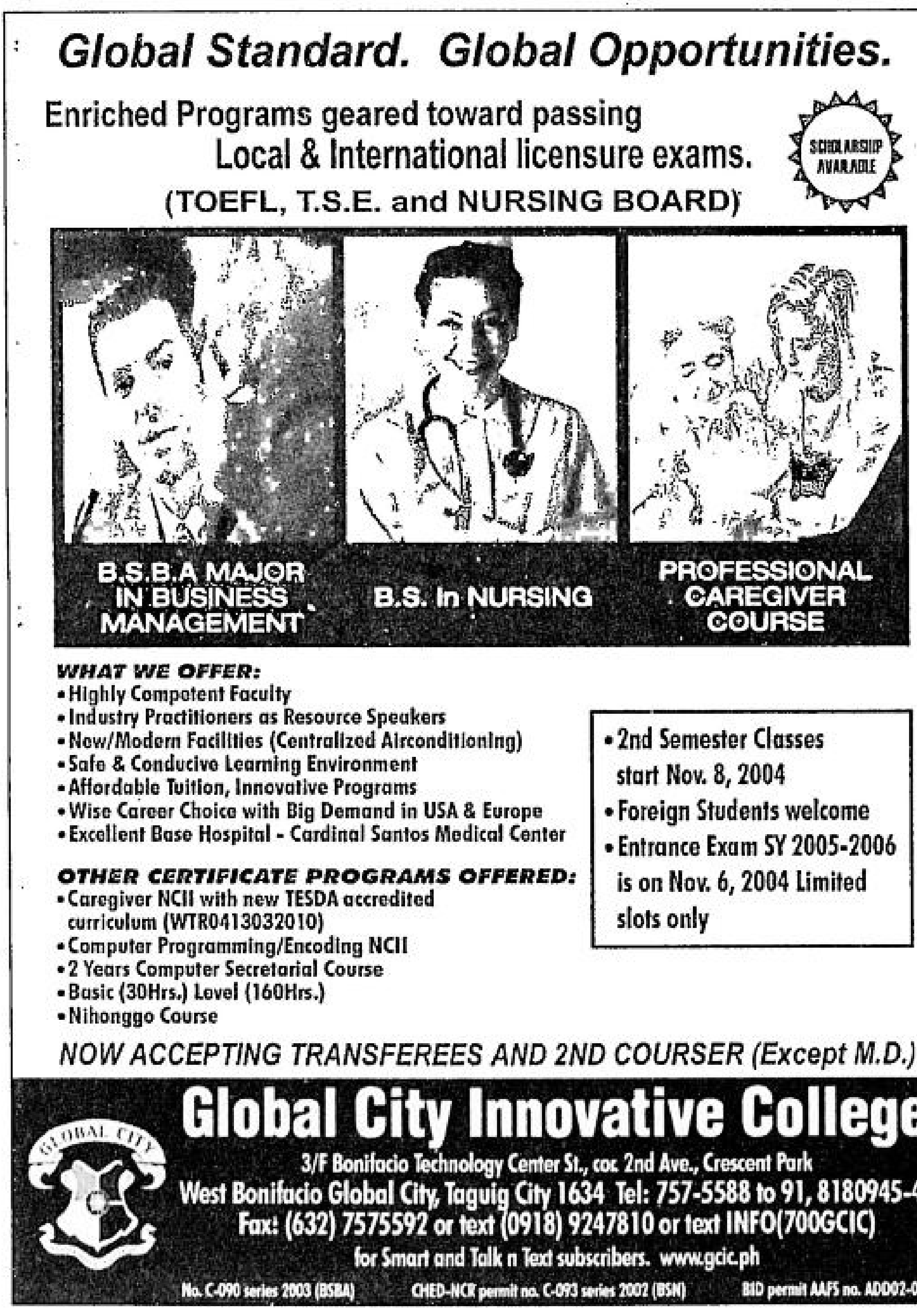
Appropriations panel chair Rep. Rolando Andaya Jr. (LP, Camarines Sur) said the DA also assured stable prices for these commodities during the holiday season.

"At least pork, beef and chicken will not disappear like *ninongs* and *ninangs* (godfathers and godmothers) hiding from their *inaanaks* (godchildren) in the weeks leading to Christmas," Andaya said.

"There might be no pork in the barrel but there will be in the pot," he said, referring to the difficulty lawmakers are experiencing in getting their pork barrel allocations due to the fiscal crisis.

Andaya sought a "pork situationer" from Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap in the course of his committee's hearing of the DA's proposed P14.6-billion budget for 2005.

Responding to Andaya's query whether pork, beef and chicken would be scarce during the holiday season, Yap said: "No, it will not happen. There will be an adequate supply."



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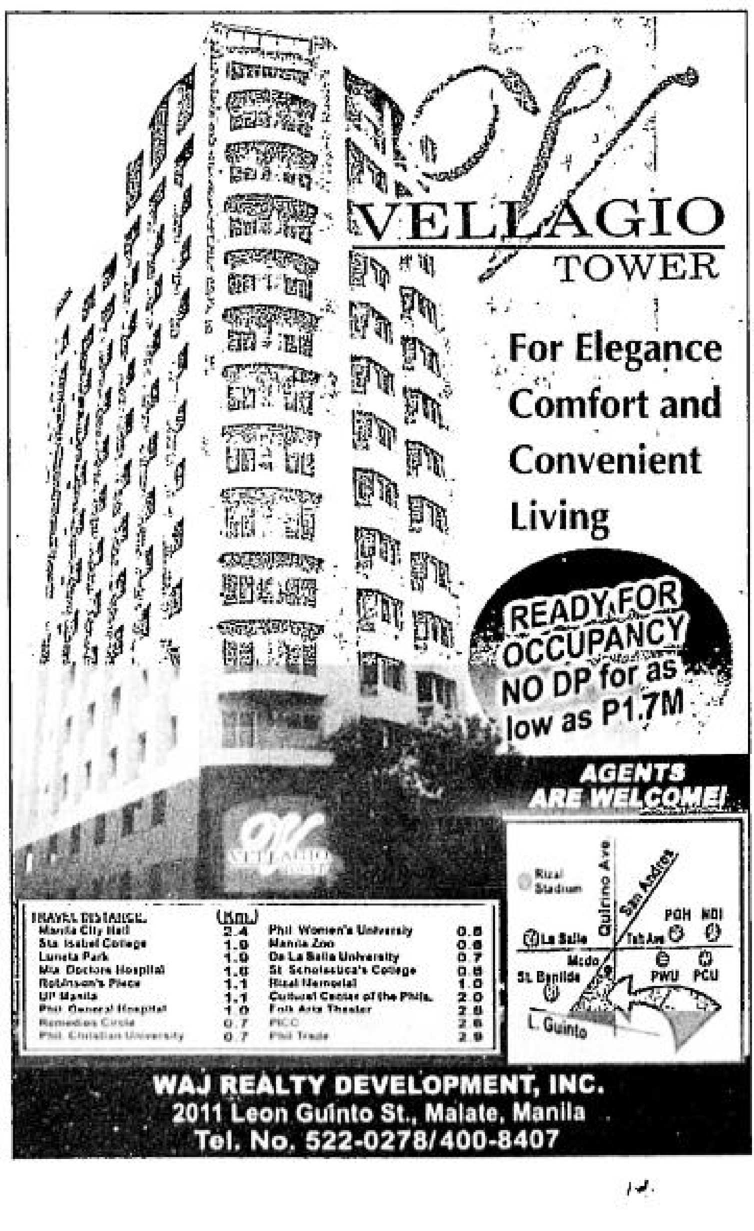

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THE TEN INSPIRATIONAL ENTREPRENEURIAL STUDENTS AWARDS(TIES):

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Now on its 2nd year, the Ten Inspirational Entrepreneurial Students (TIES) Awards, a project by the TIES Foundation headed by Ms. Vivienne Tan, is the country's premier award for student entrepreneurs. Unlike other contests, TIES focuses on students who have businesses that are already running and generating profit.

Around 28 students from the country's top colleges and universities successfully passed the rigorous pre-selection process conducted by the Philippine chapter of the Young Entrepreneurs Organization (YEO). According to YEO President Alvin Lao, "The range of the businesses set up by the students competing for TIES 2004 is very much different from the 1st TIES competition. They seem to get better every year."

After the pre-selection stage, these students then showcased their business ventures in the Student Entrepreneur Fair, also organized by the TIES Foundation. The two-day fair entitled "When the Going Gets Tough, the TIES Keeps Going" was held at the new Market! Market! Mall in Fort Bonifacio. It attracted thousands of visitors who wanted to learn and be "inspired" by their fellow students who took up the challenge of running a business venture while simultaneously hurdling the academic demands of school.

The enterprising spirit of the youth embodied in this year's 28 student finalists exhibited ventures ranging from cookies made with virgin coco-oil, soft-serve ice cream, bottled tuyo, specialty coffee,. all the way to "magic wallets", TV production and even "haute couture" gowns.

According to Ms. Vivienne Tan, "It is during such times of crisis that an alternative force for change must be highlighted. The youth's entrepreneurial spirit embodied in **the TIES participants presents a positive proactive solution to our country's unemployment problem."**

Supporters of the TIES Awards project such as Philippine Daily Inquirer Chair Marixi Prieto, Undersecretary Mel Alonzo of the Department of Trade and Industry, and Sen. Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan, fully agree with Ms. Tan's statement, that is why they are also encouraging more colleges and students to participate in the TIES Awards for 2005.

TIES AWARDS 2004
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Secretariat Head – Cheya Siat

Board of Judges:
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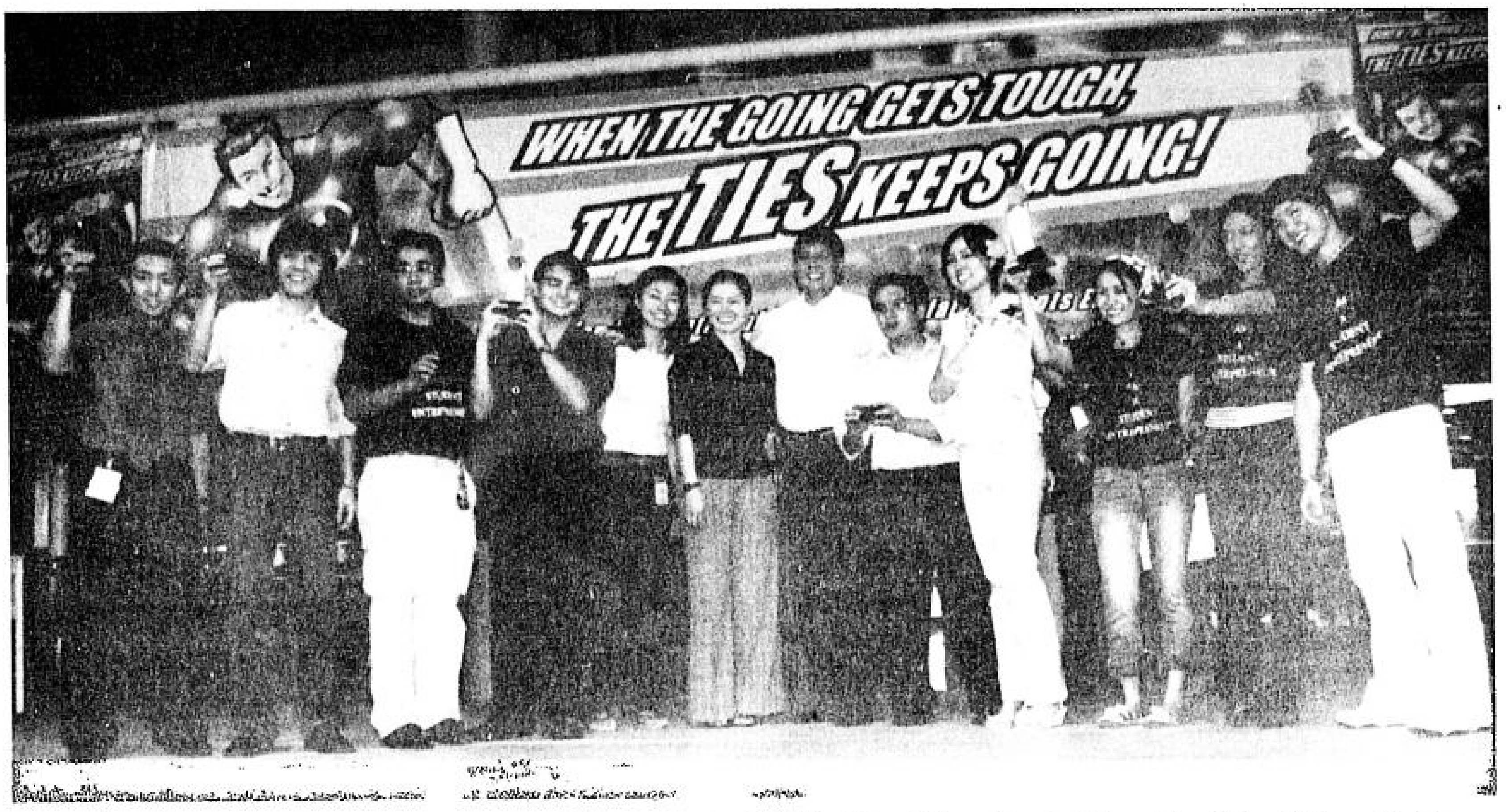
WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH,
THE TIES KEEPS GOING!

The winners of the TIES Awards 2004 together with Senator Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan (Guest of Honor) and Ms. Vivienne K. Tan (TIES Director)

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF THE 2ND TIES AWARDS!

THE 2nd Ten Inspirational Entrepreneurial Students Exhibits and Awards (TIES)

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De La Salle University

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Clothing (Gowns)
Paul Go
Ateneo de Manila University

Xtal Farms
Vegetable & Fruits
Christian Albert Guerrero
Thames International Business School

Equinox Incorporated
Virgin Cookies & Virgin Bars
Anne Catherine Hernandez
Members: Yvette Almabis, Catherine Ansay, Nikkolo Capalongan, Pia Manguiat, Joshanna Rodriguez
De La Salle University
Winner: Most Creative Booth

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Banana
Andrew Mier
Ateneo de Manila University

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Coffee
Pia Katrina Remata
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Silver
Ruth Michelle Ariem
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Winner: Best Evolving Business

Rizoken Industry
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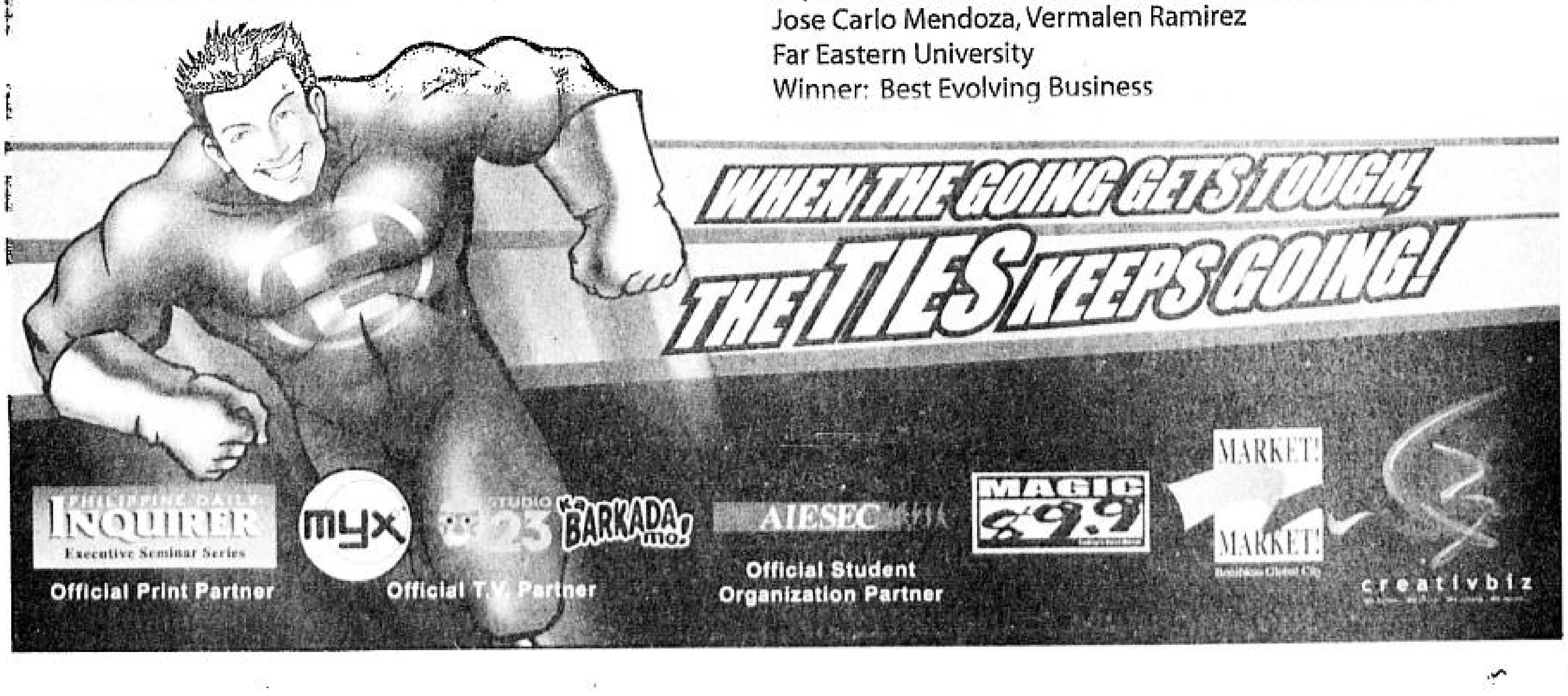
Ma. Agnes Kristine Buela
Members: Ma. Agnes Buela, Tristan Basuel, Ma. Jahmee Cayco, Charmaine Deuna, Jennylin Juson, Michale Narte, Jose Carlo Mendoza, Vermalen Ramirez
Far Eastern University
Winner: Best Evolving Business



MILF says it's all for peace

COTABATO CITY—Muslim separatist rebels said Saturday they were determined to peacefully resolve their three-decade rebellion in the southern Philippines.

Mohaqher Iqbal, chief peace negotiator for the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, said rebel leaders assured members of an international ceasefire monitoring group that they would pursue peace talks with the Philippine government "until a just, comprehensive and honorable peace settlement is achieved."

The pledge was made during a meeting with Malaysian and Bruneian ceasefire monitors at a guerrilla camp.

"Our leaders assured them the MILF is determined to achieve peace in Mindanao," rebel spokesperson Eid Kabalu told reporters. "The meeting reinforced the foundation of the peace process in the region."

The ceasefire monitoring team is composed of 10 soldiers from Brunei and 50 from Malaysia.

The monitors will be deployed in the southern cities of Iligan, Davao and Cotabato, and will file reports of any encounters between guerrillas and government troops.

Celso Lobregat, the mayor of Zamboanga City where the monitors were also to be deployed, has refused to host them. He said he feared their presence would cause rebels to enter the bustling port city.

The ceasefire, which has been in effect for more than a year, is crucial to upcoming Malaysian-brokered peace talks. Formal negotiations are expected to resume next month after the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

The rebels have condemned terrorism, denied any links to Jemaah Islamiyah, and offered one of their camps for inspection by the military. *AP*

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, October 31, 2004
31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Wis 11:22-12:2

For the entire world lies before you, just enough to tip the scales, a drop of morning dew falling on the ground.

But because you are almighty, you are merciful to all; you overlook sins and give your children time to repent. You love everything that exists and hate nothing that you have made; had you hated anything, you would not have formed it.

How could anything endure if you did not will it? And how could anything last that you had not willed? You have compassion on all because all is yours, O Lord, lover of life.

In fact your immortal spirit is in all.

And so by degrees you correct those who sin, you admonish them, reminding them how they have strayed so that turning away from evil they may trust in you, Lord.

2nd Reading: 2 Thes 1:11-2:2

We constantly pray for you; may our God make you worthy of his calling. May he, by his power, fulfill your good purposes and your work prompted by faith. In that way, the name of Jesus our Lord will be glorified through you, and you through him, according to the loving plan of God and of Christ Jesus the Lord.

Do not be easily unsettled. Do not be alarmed by what a prophet says or by any report, or by some letter said to be ours, saying the day of the Lord is at hand.

Gospel: Lk 19:1-10

When Jesus entered Jericho and was going through the city, a man named Zaccheus was there. He was a tax collector and a wealthy man. He wanted to see what Jesus was like, but he was a short man and could not see because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed up a sycamore tree. From there he would be able to see Jesus who had to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zaccheus, come down quickly for I must stay at your house today." So Zaccheus hurried down and received him joyfully.

All the people who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to the house of a sinner as a guest." But Zaccheus spoke to Jesus, "The half of my goods, Lord, I give to the poor, and if I have cheated anyone, I will pay him back four times as much." Looking at him Jesus said, "Salvation has come to this house today, for he is also a true son of Abraham. The Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost."

Commentary

To continue the money metaphor from yesterday, Jesus was never impressed by figures and percentages. In the story of the Lost Sheep, the shepherd put 99% of his stock at risk for the sake of 1%. And in the story of the two men who went up to the Temple to pray, the Pharisee had all his figures ready, "I fast twice a week, I give 10% of all I possess." But it got him nowhere. Meanwhile the tax-collector at the back, who should be big into figures, had no such balance-sheet ready, and "he went home at rights with God."

But in today's story we have a tax-collector giving his figures! "I give half of my goods to the poor and if I have cheated anyone I repay him fourfold." He didn't realize how unnecessary it was to quote figures; he mustn't have heard the stories of the Lost Sheep and the Two in the Temple. Jesus just ignored these figures and said, "Today salvation has come to this house" (today, and not when this tax-collector started being "good"). Jesus had already seen him and picked him out. The Son of Man did not come looking for good bargains or sound investments, but for people who were lost.

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Looking Back 87

"My father wanted me to marry someone else. But Francis was different. And deep in my heart I knew I would be happy with him no matter what. Denied of all financial support, we decided to marry. Francis was just starting his career as a junior auditor, so we couldn't afford anything. Not a wedding dress. Not a gold ring. We could not even afford flowers... Who would have known that Francis would become so successful and that we would be blessed with a comfortable life? Certainly not me. I didn't see it coming when he slipped on the gold ring and took off the blindfold. There it was right before me, bathed in the glorious morning light... bougainvilleas, pink, orange and white... radiant blue and yellow forget-me-nots, and honeysuckles... Happy twenty-fifth anniversary, my darling, he whispered. Francis remembered.

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EU leaders sign historic new charter

ROME—EU leaders Friday signed a historic constitution for the expanding bloc in a fanfare ceremony on the spot where the EU's forerunner was born, although doubts remain over whether it will ever come into force.

The Rome event was also clouded by a row over the EU's incoming executive Commission, which was withdrawn at the last minute this week, leaving the Union in the hands of a caretaker team in Brussels.

The assembled leaders were urged to press ahead speedily with ratifying the constitution, which must pass referenda in at least 10 EU countries over the next two years to enter into force.

"Those decisions we cannot take for granted," said outgoing European Commission chief Romano Prodi.

"The constitution that we are signing today will therefore need to be backed up by a continually renewed commitment on the part of both citizens and governments," added Italy's Silvio Berlusconi, hosting the event.

The ceremony took place in the ornate Orazi and Curiazi hall, where the Rome Treaty which established the European Economic Community—the EU's predecessor—was launched by six countries on March 25, 1957.

The Constitution, agreed in June after two years of haggling, aims to streamline EU institutions and prevent decision-making gridlock in a bloc which grew from 15 to 25 members this year, with several more waiting in line.

It notably foresees a longer-term EU presidency to replace the current six-month musical chairs system, while streamlining the executive Commission and creating a new post of EU foreign minister.

Italian President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi hailed the new constitution as "a turning point in the history of humanity."

"The act which you signed today distances us definitely from that chasm of tragic internecine wars; the specters of the 1930s will no longer haunt the souls of future generations," he said, referring to the rise of Nazi Germany.

But the historic document has still to be ratified by all 25 EU member states to come into force. The trouble is, at least one or two "no" votes are feared in the referenda to be held over the next 48 months.

Analysts say the scale of the political problem will depend on the number of no votes and, inevitably, where they occur. A thumbs-down by Britain for example would fuel talk about sidelining some countries; a negative result in France could lead to a full-blown EU crisis or even implosion.

British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said Friday that Britain was likely to hold its referendum on the EU constitution early in 2006. Blair made no public comment in Rome, leaving shortly after the end of the ceremony. *AFP*

Arafat tested for leukemia

CLAMART, France—Yasser Arafat was set to undergo a battery of medical tests on Saturday as French doctors investigate whether the ailing Palestinian leader is suffering from leukemia or some other blood disorder.

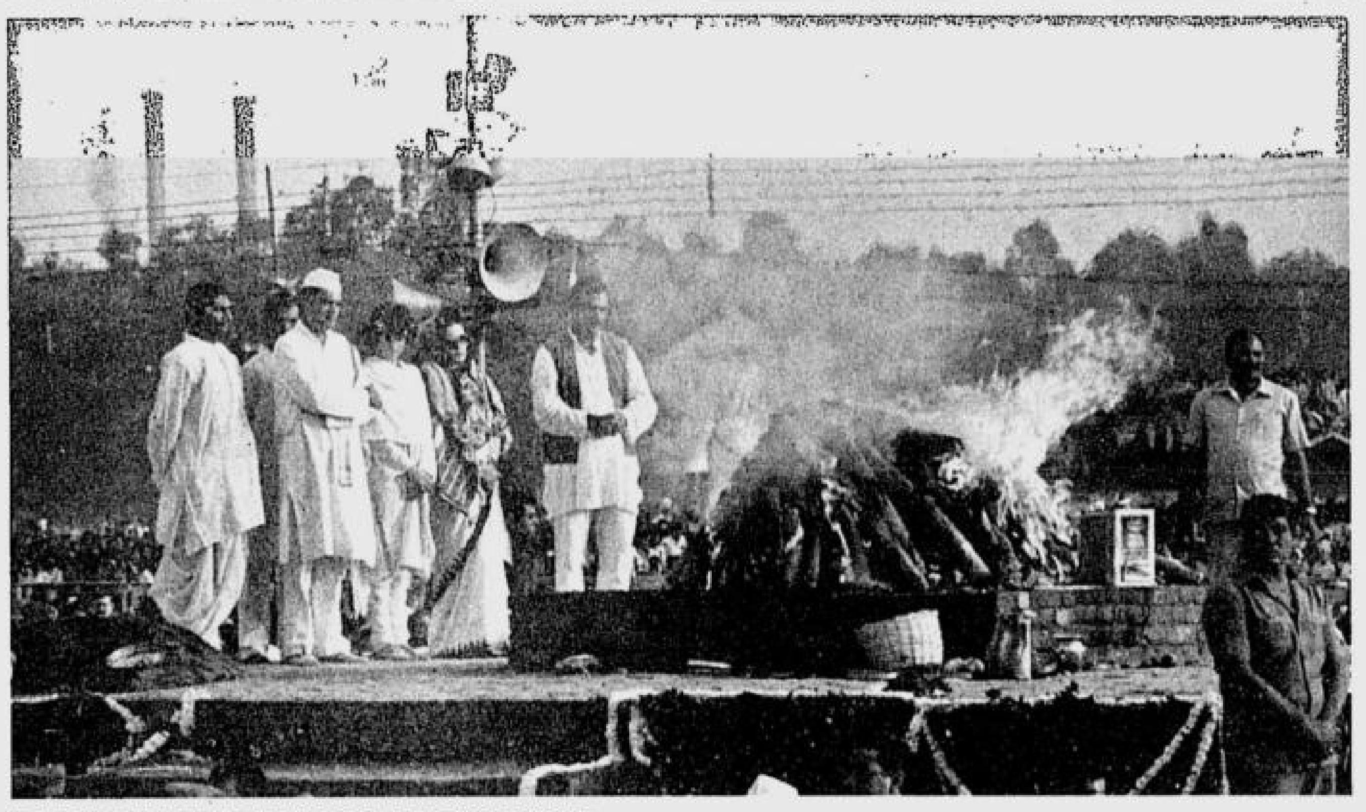
Palestinian officials said initial tests showed he was in a serious condition but there was no immediate risk of him dying.

Arafat was stretchered into a French military hospital in the Paris suburb of Clamart on Friday, after arriving by helicopter at the end of a gruelling six-hour journey from his shell-battered compound in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

The Palestinian president, effectively confined to his offices by Israeli forces for the last 2-1/2 years, only agreed to fly to France after Israel promised to allow him to return to the West Bank following treatment.

Aides said the 75-year-old would undergo several days of tests into his abnormally low count of blood platelets, a condition that can be caused by leukemia.

A senior Palestinian official said on Saturday morning that doctors—who have not yet spoken to the media—had carried out a body and brain scan that showed up nothing and that they would start a series of blood tests on Saturday. *Reuters*



DARK CHAPTER IN INDIA REMEMBERED

Picture taken Nov. 3, 1984, shows India's then Premier Rajiv Gandhi (second, left), accompanied by his wife Sonia (third, left) and his daughter Priyanka (center) looking over the cremation pyre of his mother Indira Gandhi, in New Delhi. Oct. 31 marks the 20th anniversary of Mrs. Gandhi's assassination by her Sikh bodyguards, four months after she ordered troops into the Golden Temple in Amritsar to flush out Sikh militants fighting for an independent state. AFP

Boy rescued from Japan quake rubble seeks mother

TOKYO—A 2-year-old boy who was rescued from a crushed car suffers intense fear and asks about his mother who was buried Saturday, a week after a major earthquake struck Japan, doctors said.

Yuta Minagawa, who spent four nights trapped in a white mini-van under the rubble of a landslide before being pulled out Wednesday, seems to have clear memories but remains in intensive care, hospital staff said.

Doctors said the boy, who has come to symbolize the human suffering of the earthquake, is living in fear, refusing to sleep in the dark. He appeared unaware that his mother and 3-year-old sister died with him in the car.

He has been repeatedly asking hospital staff when he can see his mother and inquired Saturday: "Did my mom die in the hospital?"

Officials at Nagaoka Red Cross Hospital would not say whether the news has been broken to him.

When physicians asked Yuta what he drank while he was trapped, he said only, "I drank milk."

"I didn't know what to do because the car broke. Please fix it," the boy was quoted as saying.

Rescuers believe the boy survived by cramping underneath the car in a space 50 cm wide and one-meter high.

Hundreds of mourners gathered Saturday in the town of Koide to pay last respects to the 39-year-old mother Takako Minagawa and her daughter Mayu.

The woman's draped coffin was brought on a hearse to the graveyard past black-clad mourners holding pictures of the girl, whose body remains wedged in the wreck of the car. *AFP*

Hundreds to be charged over Muslim deaths, says Thai PM

BANGKOK—Hundreds of Muslims will be prosecuted over a demonstration that led to the deaths of 87 people in southern Thailand last week, Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra said Saturday in a move which could further raise tensions in the region.

"I have received a report from General Sirichai Tanyasiri, head of the Southern Provinces Peacekeeping Command, that 300 of the detainees will be prosecuted," Thaksin said in his weekly radio address.

They will face charges including destruction of government property, staging a riot, and robbery, Sirichai said.

Local television showed the first of 900 other detainees being released Saturday afternoon.

Security forces arrested about 1,300 people after the demonstration in Tak Bai, Narathiwat province on Monday.

Of those, 78 were crushed to death or suffocated after being piled into trucks. The government said six were shot dead at the protest and three others were found drowned in a river near the protest site, the foreign ministry said.

Under martial law, suspects can be detained for up to seven days without charge.

Local television showed the first of some 900 detainees, wearing new white and blue T-shirts, being freed and receiving 200 baht ($4.88). Thaksin had said the detainees would receive money and clothing "since their shirts were stripped off during the arrests."

At least two of the freed men removed their T-shirts once they boarded a bus, television pictures showed.

Faced with mounting domestic and international concern over the way security forces handled the incident, Thaksin on Friday night announced an independent inquiry into the deaths.

"I will set up an independent commission headed by Pichet Sunthornpipit, ex-Parliamentary ombudsman, and comprised of legal and Muslim experts and experts on crowds, to investigate the correct and fair information," a sombre-looking Thaksin said in a nationally televised address.

Thaksin did not say when the investigation will begin, or what time frame it has to complete its work.

Thai media, quoting a senator just returned from the south, reported Saturday that the number of protesters shot dead during the demonstration could be far greater than the six reported by the government of the Buddhist-majority kingdom.

Sen. Nirand Pitakwatchara was quoted by The Nation as saying that witnesses alleged security forces loaded three army trucks with 14 or 15 bodies each at the protest site.

Many of the people detained may have been innocent bystanders not involved in the protest, the English-language daily also reported.

During his address, Thaksin expressed "regret" at the demonstrators' deaths. He said he was not prejudiced against Muslims and would compensate the victims while trying to restore stability in the south as soon as possible. *AFP*

US could rethink Electoral College system

By Mark Sherman

US President George W. Bush (right), joined by California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, waves to the crowd at a campaign rally in Nationwide Arena Oct. 29, in Columbus, Ohio. AFP

WASHINGTON—It could happen again: One candidate captures the popular vote, but his opponent wins the presidency in the Electoral College.

Such a replay of the 2000 election is an outcome of Tuesday's balloting that many Americans dread. It also could be the one that could finally drive the nation to a serious debate about the future of the Electoral College, the system that actually decides the presidential election in the United States.

Under the Electoral College system, each of the 50 states gets two electoral votes—plus apportioned additional votes based on population. That means winning a state, even by the smallest of margins, entitles a candidate to all of that state's electoral votes—except in two states, Nebraska and Maine, which split their electoral votes, awarding two to the candidate who wins the popular vote across the state and one to the popular-vote winner in each congressional district.

It takes a majority, or 270 of 538 electoral votes, to win the presidency.

In 2000, Vice President Al Gore won a half-million more votes nationwide than President George W. Bush. But Bush nevertheless became president by virtue of getting a majority of electoral votes.

Proponents of changing the way the United States elects its presidents say another mixed result would help build support to change the system, particularly if the parties' roles were reversed.

This year, the possibility exists that Bush could be denied a second term despite winning the popular vote if Democrat John Kerry were to come up with enough narrow wins in battleground states, proponents of change in both parties said.

"That might cause Republican reconsideration just as there was Democratic angst in the last election," said Republican Congressman Jim Leach of Iowa, a longtime supporter of an overhaul of the Electoral College system.

Or, as Rep. Gene Green, a Texas Democrat, said: "That would be like having the shoe on the other foot."

Called outdated and antiquated by its critics, the Electoral College has endured despite four elections in which candidates have become president, despite finishing second in the popular vote.

Most polls find majorities favor getting rid of it. "People think of it as somewhere between bad and stupid," said Harvard University history professor Alexander Keyssar. "But that's been true for 50 years."

Because it is enshrined in the Constitution, the Electoral College could be abolished only through a constitutional amendment, and more than 700 attempts have failed. Amending the nation's basic law requires a two-thirds vote in both houses of Congress and ratification by 38 states—no easy feat, especially because the Electoral College gives small states disproportionate influence. States have a minimum of three electoral votes, no matter their size, as does the District of Columbia.

Defenders of the college say the protection of small states is a good reason to keep it. Do away with the Electoral College, they say, and candidates would campaign exclusively in states with large populations, where vote totals would swamp those of small states.

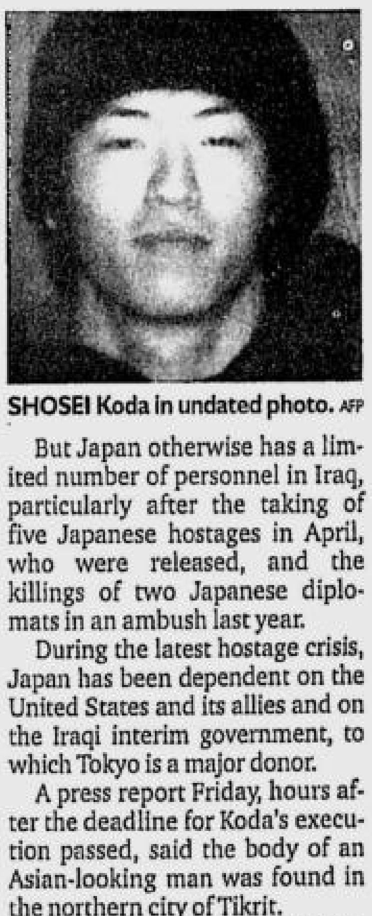
"The Electoral College embodies two kinds of principles in electing a president: proportionality based on population and equality of states," said John Samples, director of the libertarian Cato Institute's Center for Representative Government.

Proposals to change the process generally fall into these categories:

- Abolish the Electoral College and institute direct election of the president, perhaps requiring the winner to gain 40 percent of the vote to avoid a runoff.
- Keep the college, but have states abandon the winner-take-all formula and allot electoral votes proportionally, as is under consideration in Colorado this year.
- Give the statewide winner two electoral votes and award one vote to the winner of each congressional district, the system used in Maine and Nebraska.
- Give an electoral vote bonus to the winner of the nationwide popular vote, which would eliminate most split decisions.

Leach said the argument against the Electoral College is plain: "We're advocating democracy around the world. Are we suggesting to anyone they have an electoral college?" *AP*

Japan in confusion over fate of hostage



SHOSEI Koda in undated photo. AFP

TOKYO—Japan was thrown into confusion Saturday over the fate of a 24-year-old hostage threatened with execution in Iraq after two bodies discovered in as many days were determined to be of other people.

The day began with a pre-dawn news conference called by the foreign ministry which said US troops found a body north of Baghdad resembling Shosei Koda, a Japanese traveler abducted by Islamic militants linked to al-Qaida.

But when US forces flew the body to Kuwait, doctors at the Japanese Embassy there found that the height, head and dental structure did not match those of Koda, top Japanese government spokesperson Hiroyuki Hosoda said.

"The medical officers at the embassy in Kuwait examined the body and they concluded that it is not likely that it is the remains of Mr. Koda," said Hosoda, the chief cabinet secretary.

"His dental structure is completely different," Hosoda said.

It was not immediately clear who the body belonged to or whether it would be flown back to Iraq.

Koda, who had reportedly gone to Iraq as a tourist and was abducted after he failed to find an affordable hotel, was threatened with death unless Japan pulled its military from Iraq by late Thursday, a demand refused by Tokyo.

Japan has about 550 troops stationed in Iraq on a humanitarian mission. It is Japan's first military deployment since World War II to an area of active fighting.

But Japan otherwise has a limited number of personnel in Iraq, particularly after the taking of five Japanese hostages in April, who were released, and the killings of two Japanese diplomats in an ambush last year.

During the latest hostage crisis, Japan has been dependent on the United States and its allies and on the Iraqi interim government, to which Tokyo is a major donor.

A press report Friday, hours after the deadline for Koda's execution passed, said the body of an Asian-looking man was found in the northern city of Tikrit.

But the body was of a truck driver with a large build, dark skin and black moustache, said Duraid al-Tikriti of Tikrit general hospital.

Koda's mother, a nurse who had pleaded to Islamic militants on Arabic television, has refused to accept her son was killed after being informed of developments by government officials, Japanese media said quoting relatives. *AFP*

Cambodians warmly embrace their new king

PHNOM PENH — Cambodians warmly embraced their little-known new monarch King Norodom Sihamoni Saturday, impressed by his graceful bearing and gentle speech as his ornate three-day coronation drew to an end.

The 51-year-old king was formally crowned Friday in an elaborate and solemn ceremony. In his first address to the nation Saturday, he promised to share his countrymen's "happiness and sadness forever."

Prak Sokhom, a pickle-seller doing a roaring trade from the thousands attending the event at the park outside the sprawling palace's gates, gushed over the youthful-looking King Sihamoni.

"His voice is very sweet and he is also very handsome. He is a good person, very gentle and suitable for the position," she said.

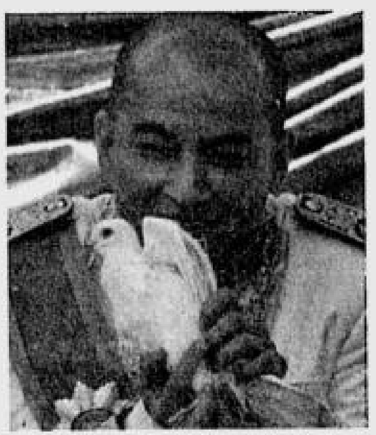
The new monarch, an unmarried former ballet dancer and cultural diplomat who has spent most of his life outside Cambodia, is barely known by his 13 million subjects.

But his glamorous appointment as king has excited many.

Ngourn Pheakdey, an 11-year-old streetwise scavenger said he originally planned to come here Saturday only to collect the rubbish the crowd left behind.

"I didn't plan to see him at all but I have seen him now and I am very happy that I did because he is the king!" he said.

"I don't know if he will rule well but I believe in him because he looks very gentle and kind. I hope that he will take care of the lives of children like us."



KING Norodom Sihamoni releases a white pigeon toward the end of the coronation ceremony. REUTERS

Cambodia's kings were once all-powerful but today the position is largely symbolic. Yet the monarchy remains highly respected and King Sihamoni's father Norodom Sihanouk styled himself as a protector of the country's vulnerable.

Kim Sreng, an orange-robed Buddhist monk observing the spectacle, said he was optimistic about the new king's abilities.

"His outside appearance is very good. His face is full of the four virtues of a good-natured man: compassion, pity, joy at others' happiness and sincerity," the 28-year-old said.

While Cambodia's older citizens, particularly in rural areas, still regard the king as semi-divine, King Sihamoni faces a tougher challenge winning over the young. Many are more concerned with economic survival in his war-scarred nation than the monarchy.

But university students hearing him speak gave him the thumbs-up.

"I am optimistic about his reign," said agricultural student Huot Lina, 23.

"The gentle look on his face, the respectful speech he gives, all of this helps me to believe more in him... I will wait and see what happens next but what I can confirm now is trust. I and my friends here hand our trust to him." *AFP*

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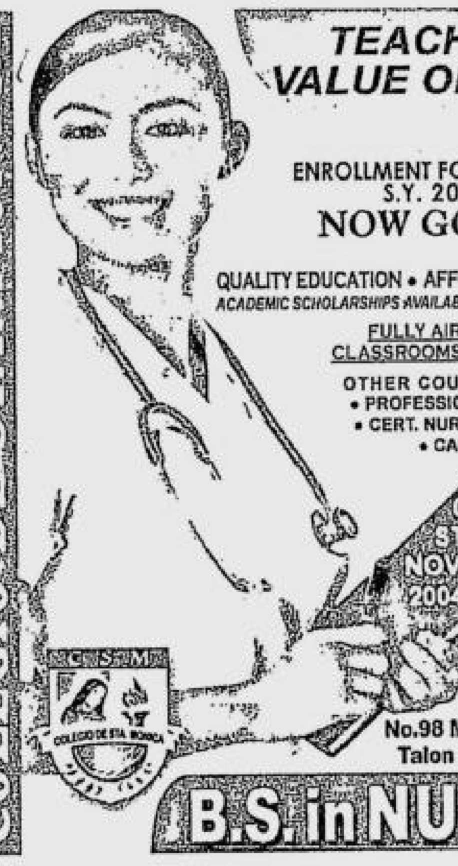

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01-31	MAMMA MIA!
01-31	Tan Swie Hian
01-03	Sing Song
05-07	Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
09-31	Hari Raya Light-Up
14-22	Navarathiri Festival
14-31	Pilgrimage to Kusu Island
15-31	Deepavali Light-Up 2004
24	Action Asia Challenge

NOVEMBER

01	Theemidhi Festival
01-30	Fabric of the Nation exhibition
01-30	Crossroads: Collective Works of Second Generation Artists
01-30	Ju Ming 2004 Singapore-Beijing-Shanghai Asian Sculpture at its Best
01-30	MAMMA MIA!
01-30	Tan Swie Hian
01-14	Deepavali Light-Up 2004
01-14	godeatgod
08-15	Disney Live! Winnie the Pooh and the Perfect Day
11-12	Dances of the Orient
11	Deepavali
13-21	Singapore International Buskers Festival
13-30	Christmas in the Tropics 2004
14	Hari Raya Puasa
15-21	Singapore Badminton Open
16-21	The Little Match Girl
20-21	Singapore River Regatta
20-30	Rumpelstiltskin
23-30	Sesame Street Live Everyone Makes Music
25	BONEY'M LIVE 2004
26-30	Warisan Kita Festival
26-30	Nickelodeon's Christmas by the Bay
26-30	Family Festival
27	Kavyarasa

DECEMBER

01-31	Fabric of the Nation exhibition
01-31	Crossroads: Collective Works of Second Generation Artists
01-31	Ju Ming 2004 Singapore-Beijing-Shanghai Asian Sculpture at its Best
01-31	MAMMA MIA!
01-31	Christmas in the Tropics 2004
01-03	Sesame Street Live Everyone Makes Music
01-04	Warisan Kita Festival
01-05	Family Festival
01-09	Nickelodeon's Christmas by the Bay
01-12	Rumpelstiltskin
01-19	Tan Swie Hian
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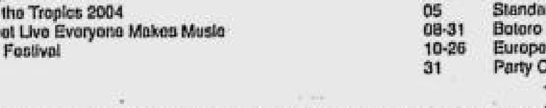

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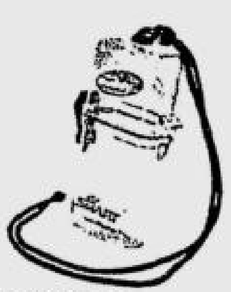

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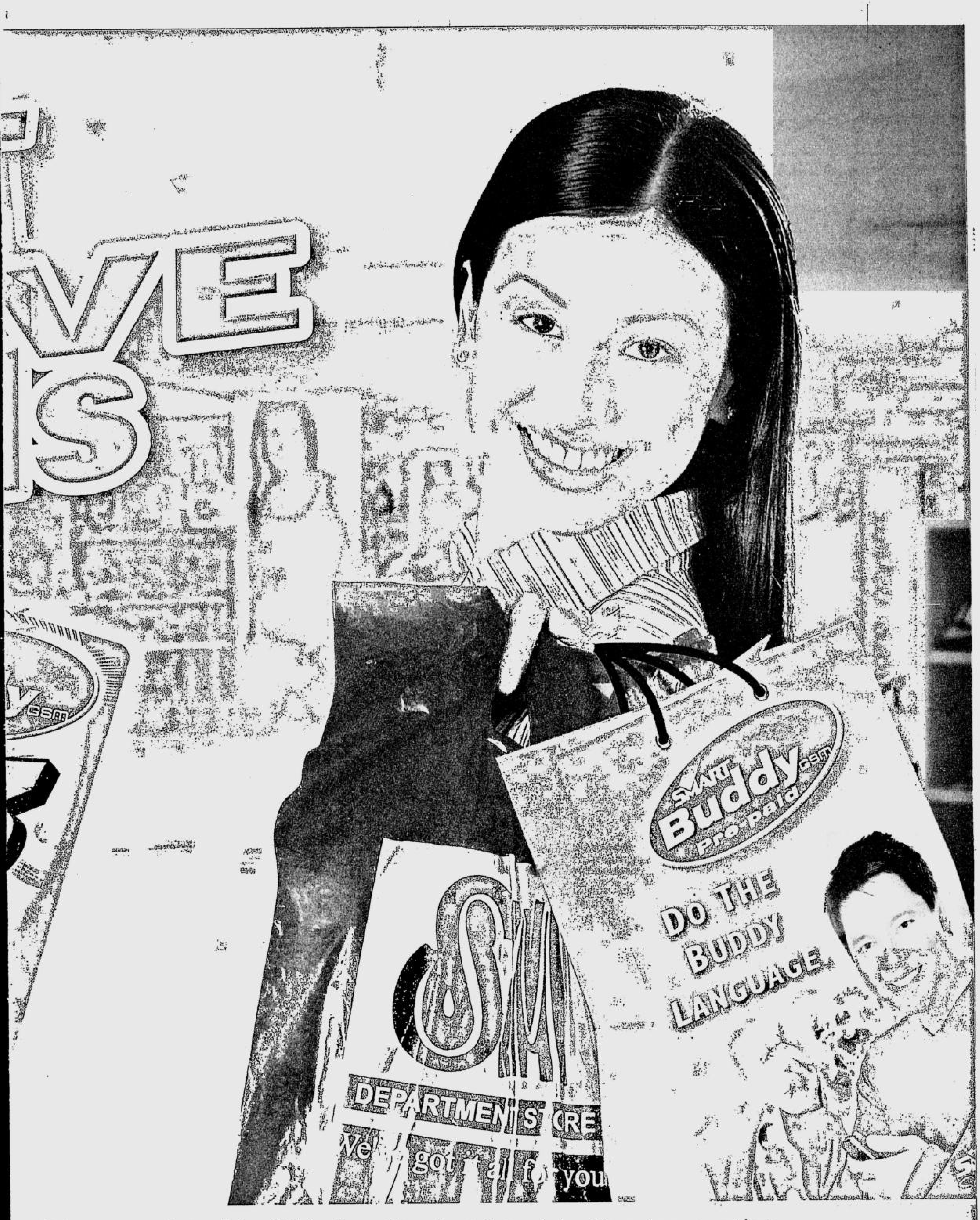

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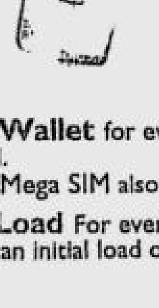

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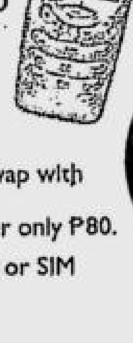

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OPINION

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•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 /
528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
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Her father's daughter

EDITORIAL

ILOCOS Norte Rep. Imee Marcos has cut a high profile in the ongoing congressional inquiry into the alleged corruption in the Armed Forces of the Philippines. She tangled with the always-testy Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes over his mother's tax returns. She buttonholed another former AFP chief of staff, Diomedio Villanueva, about his willingness to disclose his Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

When Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia was a no-show at the first hearing, she threatened (a week ahead of Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago) to block the confirmation of offending military officials at the Commission on Appointments. When Garcia finally showed up, she speculated loudly about an alleged P50-million public relations offensive funded by generals.

At one point, a columnist in another newspaper described her as asking "searching questions" about various aspects of corruption in the military during the televised hearings.

High-profile stuff, except for one thing. Her questions were not searching enough. If anything, and taken together, they can be understood as an attempt to gloss over the fundamental reality that has marked the AFP the last 40 years. It was her father, the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, who corrupted the military.

This is not to say that everyone in the AFP, or even in the corps of generals, is necessarily corrupt. Or that those generals who are in fact corrupt bear no responsibility because the blame has been laid squarely at the foot of the dictator's glass coffin.

Corruption in the military, like corruption elsewhere in government, remains a matter of choice. Individuals make the personal decision to divert some of the budget, or accept a supplier's bribe, or favor an influential businessman in a locality. But Marcos created a culture in the military that made it easier for both officers and the rank and file to make the fatal choice.

The country's most successful politician started by politicizing the AFP. From his first election as president, until his last days as dictator, Marcos applied bailiwick politics ruthlessly. The most important demographics were Ilocano roots and personal loyalty. The best example remains the most obvious. Marcos maneuvered his cousin and former driver Fabian Ver through the ranks, finally appointing him AFP chief of staff over much more qualified officers.

By aggressively promoting those loyal to him personally and those who hailed from the so-called Solid North, Marcos devalued the traditional military virtues of courage and competence, merit and discipline.

Marcos then corrupted the military by rewarding his partisans and buying off others. Essentially, he turned generals into businessmen, even while they were in military service.

The stir over Garcia's many houses is a faint echo of public outrage over the generals' mansions that came to light in the mid-1980s—many of them in expensive residential villages near Camp Aguinaldo, all of them out of reach of a general's standard pay.

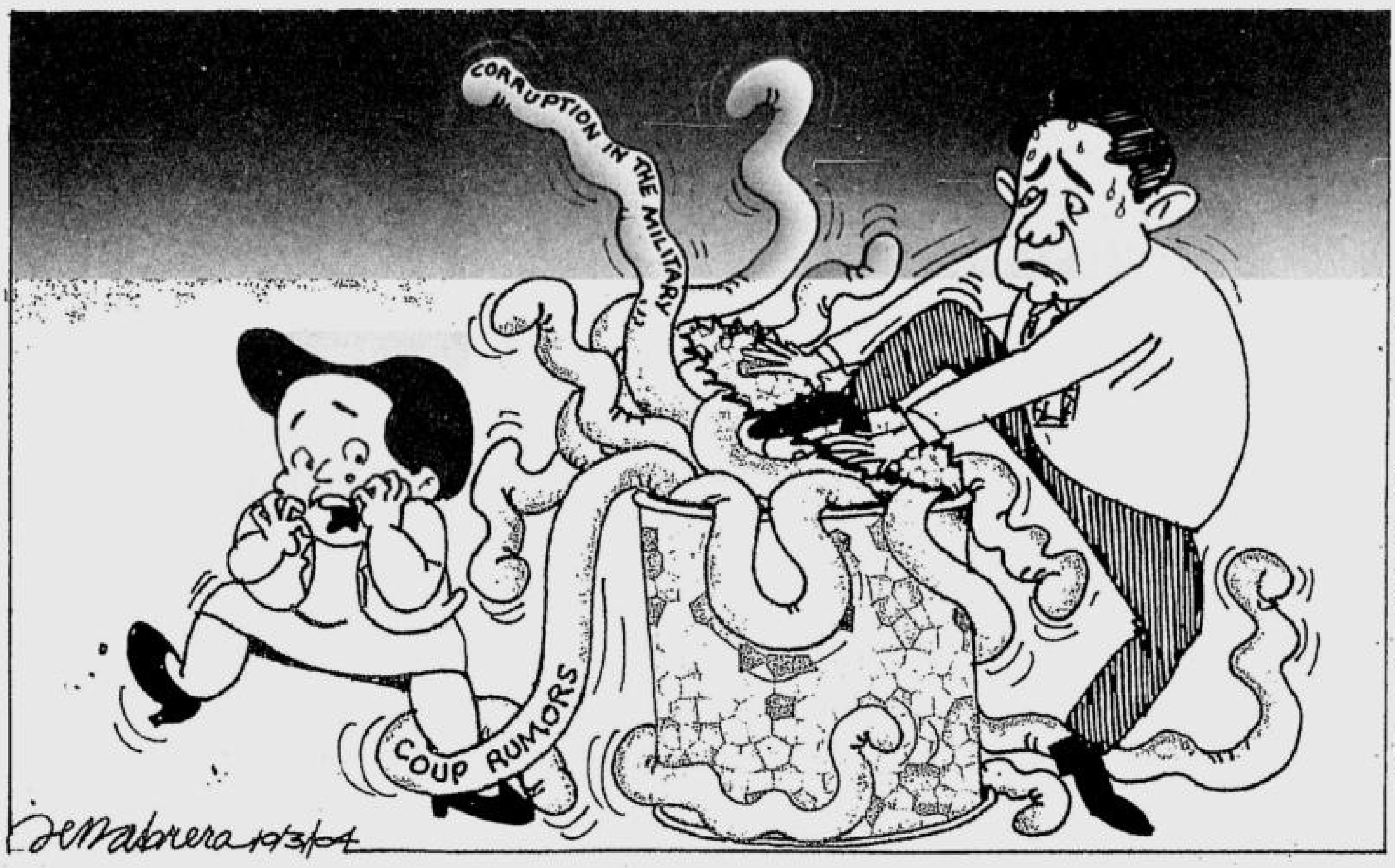
A consummate lawyer, Marcos worked hard to keep up legal appearances. He was quite vain about the legal justification for martial rule, which he called constitutional authoritarianism. But in truth, his regime was kept in power in part through the use of the military.

Thus, Marcos undermined the military by giving it a heady taste of political power. He brought the boys out of the barracks, as it were, and it has since been a struggle to keep them there.

In other words, he corrupted the military in the same way he corrupted Philippine democracy itself, by subverting it from within and undermining its foundations.

This is the reality that the dictator's daughter fails to see, or does not want us to see. If she were serious about reforming the AFP—which has been since 1986 a sometimes troubled but undeniably pro-democratic institution—she would begin by looking for traces of her father's rule. (They're everywhere.)

But that is as likely to happen as Garcia suddenly remembering a plausible justification for his unexplained wealth. No Marcos has even apologized for the excesses, the torture, the billion-dollar corruption, that marked the dark days of the dictatorship. We shouldn't hold our breath, expecting them to start now.



Kerry vs Bush

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

MANY Filipinos are interested in the outcome of the American presidential election this coming Tuesday. Like it or not, we have historic ties with the United States dating back to a hundred years ago, not to mention our sentimental attachment to anything Stateside like Elvis and Victoria's Secret. Additionally, the United States is playing the self-serving role, not generally accepted, of an international policeman. The results of the coming election will affect not only that country but also the rest of the world.

As an interested spectator, I am as anxious as many Filipinos over the current contest between the top contenders for the presidency of the United States. The latest surveys predict a neck-and-neck race between George W. Bush and John Kerry as if they were equine thoroughbreds. Most of these polls have been more or less accurate in the past although we can remember one surprising upset that saw the shoo-in Thomas Dewey defeated by "give-'em hell" Harry S. Truman. President Bush has a slight edge over Senator Kerry, but the margin is within what is called the margin of error.

My own fear is that President Bush will win the coming election although Senator Kerry appears to be more deserving. Merit is not always the principal criterion for choosing the President of the United States, because American voters tend to vote like the Filipino voters in recent years. We elected Joseph Estrada as president in 1998 and such misfits as Jinggoy Estrada, Bong Revilla and Lito Lapid to the Senate this year.

American voters are also not always intelligent in their choices. In 1921, they elected Warren Harding who by his own admission later was unfit for the presidency. In 1952 and 1956, they preferred Dwight D. Eisenhower, who was an undistinguished student in West Point, to the erudite Adlai Stevenson. They did choose brilliant thinkers like Thomas Jefferson and John Adams but they also elevated to the highest office in the land several candidates with little formal schooling. Lincoln was one of them, but he proved to be one of the greatest presidents.

According to the polls, Bush has substantial support that may win him his bid for reelection. Dubya is not known for scholastic achievement and has occasionally mutilated the English language, but he is at least not worse, although not better, than some previous occupants of the Oval Office. As former governor of Texas and during his current term as president, he has amassed tremendous experience in the art of governance that has earned him considerable backing from his admirers.

The Democrats have faulted him for his acts as commander in chief and stress that although he may have won the war against Iraq, he is losing the peace with American soldiers losing their lives daily against the insurgents. Also challenged are Bush's domestic policies which, Kerry says, have resulted in the deterioration of the economy and the discrimination of the middle class in favor of the millionaires. Kerry also differs with Bush on various other issues like abortion, medical insurance, and social welfare,

A serious apprehension of the Democrats is that if Bush loses in a clean election, he will cheat as he did in 2000. And he can do this more easily this time, now that he is the President of the United States with all his powers and influence. Al Gore won the popular vote in the last presidential election but lost the electoral vote because of vote-rigging in Florida, where Dubya's brother was the governor. Some say that even the federal Supreme Court connived in the cheating.

At any rate, I hope Kerry will be able to affect a similar Truman upset. He is not as apparently hopeless as Truman in 1948, but he is nonetheless in serous danger of being out-maneuvered by the Republicans in power. Still, it is not always the reelectionist who triumphs in a fair election, as witness Bill Clinton who clobbered Dubya's father in 1992, Roosevelt who beat Hoover in 1932, and Cleveland, who replaced Harrison in 1892. The winners, incidentally, were all Democrats.

Intellectually, Kerry outdistances Bush by a mile and won all the three presidential debates. He even looks more presidential than Bush. He will be more imposing than Bush in international conferences with his 6'2" height and his head of thick hair with just enough gray to give him an air of serious wisdom. These may seem superficial distinctions but they may count a lot in close elections. Many women voted for Clinton because, in Hillary's words, "he looked like a Viking."

And since we are being trivial, let us remember that superstition in US presidential elections. Candidates with double letters in their names are the *llamados*. Thus, to cite recent examples, Bill Clinton beat George Bush, Jimmy Carter beat Gerald Ford, and Harry Truman beat Thomas Dewey. True, Lyndon Johnson defeated Barry Goldwater who had a double letter in his name. But as a rule, the superstition has proved true for William McKinley, Calvin Coolidge, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt, John Kennedy, and others. John Kerry may be next, so I'll keep my fingers crossed.

Conversion

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

I HEARD the story about a priest who went to Europe for the first time. He was rather short, but that was not a problem at all until he had to say his Sunday Mass. As he began the Mass, he realized that the altar was so high. All that the people could see was his face. He tried to remedy the situation by saying the sign of the cross starting from his forehead, then to his chin, then to his left cheek and ending with his right cheek.

* * *

In today's Gospel (Lk. 19,1-10), we hear about Zaccheus who also tried to remedy his situation. Literally, he could not see Jesus because he was short. Spiritually he could not see Jesus because he was focused on the profits of this world, till he encountered the Prophet. He had to climb a tree to be able to see Jesus. He had to rise above himself and his situation. He had to leave the comfort and the safety of the solid ground where he was standing on so that he could see Jesus. If you could not really see God in your life, it is because you are not focused on Him. Or maybe it is because you refuse to leave behind the worldly treasures and attachments you are standing on.

* * *

There are times, as it were, when God literally dismantles the ground we are standing on so that we cling only to Him. In one instant, God can just move all that we have built so that we hold on only unto Him. Death, sickness, separation, failures are painful moments that eventually lead us to rely more on God rather than on ourselves. When the rug is pulled under your feet, perhaps it is because God sees how proud you stand, and He wants you to kneel and hold on to Him once again. He who knows how to kneel gets well and gets healed.

* * *

What a joy to see Art Romero, an ex-seminarian, at the Mass last Sunday. You see, a month ago I saw him at the ICU after he had a heart attack while playing tennis. The near death experience has made 47-year-old Art realize so many things in life. Having been at the doorstep of death, Art has realized that everything in this world is passing. At that point, nothing is really important, he said. All worldly possessions, all worldly cares just fade away, and the most important thing at that point, he said, is the impending encounter with God. He has experienced God in a very personal and in a very real way.

Now, Art, who was burdened by unforgiveness before, has learned to forgive, and has decided to focus his life on "things that really matter" from now on. He kept repeating how important the present moment is, how beautiful life is, and how wonderful God is. Yes Art, you are still alive because your mission is not yet accomplished in this life! One thing I know about Art is his personal devotion to the Blessed Mother. Now, more than ever, he told me that he prays the rosary with so much love. He always holds the rosary which I gave him at the ICU. Life for Art has become more simple, more peaceful and more serene because he has surrendered everything to God and to the Blessed Mother.

The road to conversion is not easy. In fact, it is not only bumpy. It could even be disastrous at times, but rest assured, the grace of God is working and, if we obey, we will find ourselves in His embrace and back home.

* * *

When a person has been touched by God, he is no longer the same. He begins to see himself and the world in God's eyes. This is what we call conversion. Lately, the daily papers have been filled with stories of conversion—not of the spiritual kind but conversion for worldly profit. Let us all pray that real conversion occur in our people, especially in our leaders who continue to amass wealth as if there was no more death and resurrection. I wonder what these greedy people who have plundered the nation will say to God at the end of their lives. They can justify and get away with their misdeeds before men, but not before God. Again I ask, how much money does one need to be happy in this life? When does one say "enough"? The bottom line is what Jesus Himself has asked: "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and in the end, lose his soul?"

* * *

May All Souls' Day remind us all that we have a soul, and that we will meet our Creator someday. May our meeting with God be a pleasant one. That all depends on how well we live our lives now.

* * *

An invitation for an Advent Recollection on Nov. 20, 2004, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Bahay Ugnayan, Good Shepherd Convent, Aurora Boulevard, Quezon City, to be conducted by Sr. Purificacion Mendoza, FMDM. Interested parties may contact these numbers: 9115834/ 6331965/4266245/9283494 and 7231516.

* * *

Inviting you all to join the local pilgrimage to Naga, Legazpi and Sorsogon on Nov. 24 to 26. Please contact 5238581 to 89; 5214156 or 7217457.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, remind me that life is short, and that what matters most in the end is the love that I have shared with you and with people. Amen.

Abaya's valedictory

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

FEARLESS forecast—not that I have a dislike for conservative Republicans or a bias for liberal Democrats. But being a superstitious individual, I just can't see how Massachusetts Sen. John F. Kerry can lose after the Boston Red Sox scored the greatest comeback in major league baseball history, defeating the New York Yankees despite being three games down in the American League Championship Series. They then proceeded to crush the National League champions, the St. Louis Cardinals, in four straight games, ending what has been the "curse" of the Red Sox since 1918 when they last won a World Series. For the benefit of our readers, in 1920 the owners of the Red Sox, short of cash, traded pitcher Herman "Babe" Ruth to the New York Yankees where he would play as an outfielder and later become the home run king of baseball. For more than 80 years after giving up "the Bambino," as Babe Ruth was called, the Red Sox would lose all their World Series engagements—twice to the St. Louis Cardinals in 1946 and 1967.

Heroes of this historic Red Sox victory were a trio of Latinos from the Dominican Republic—David Ortiz, Pedro Martinez and the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the series, Manny Ramirez. On Tuesday, John F. Kerry will be swept into office on the shoulders of the Red Sox nation.

* * *

There was a time when baseball was a favored sport in this country. I remember my late father taking me to the ballpark at the Rizal Memorial to watch the games of the Manila Bay Baseball League (MBBL). The Philippines and Japan were tops in the sport in Asia with private clubs like Canlubang showcasing Philippine baseball at its best. Today, basketball has completely dominated local athletic events to the detriment of other sports such as baseball and soccer.

* * *

Last Friday, in an emotionally charged valedictory, Gen. Narciso Abaya, outgoing chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, bowed out from military service with a sharp attack on civilian leadership and a press and media prone to sensationalism.

Abaya noted that 14 years after the Davide Fact-Finding Commission investigated the coup attempts of the late '80s, many of its recommendations have remained unacted upon by government. These recommendations pertain to conditions which breed disenchantment and instability in AFP ranks, and continue to hamper even the most sincere of reform movements.

Enumerating some of the unresolved issues, Abaya stressed that: (1) civilian leaders and supporters of coup attempts have never been made accountable for their participation in extra-constitutional uprisings. This passivity in the dispensation of justice has perpetuated the audacity and brazenness of plotters to agitate, provoke and exploit morale issues in the AFP.

(2) "Political grandstanding and the unfair and humiliating treatment and criticism of military officers by Congress and other public officials have long been identified as a bane to military professionalism. And yet, even today we hear of politicians dangling congressional confirmation as if it were a prize for us to kowtow, or to perform a trick to satisfy one's ego." (This line from Abaya's speech elicited the longest and loudest applause from the audience.) He said these circumstances run counter to the recommendation for setting up a system which would avoid exploitation of the confirmation process for political purposes. The Davide Commission recommended confirmation hearings for only the positions of chief of staff and the major service commanders. Today, Abaya observed, "nothing has changed and our colonels and our young officers, indirectly, are early on made vulnerable to the possibility of political patronage."

(3) The Davide Commission suggested that the military and the Commission on Audit work out a standard method that harmonizes the needs of the field and the bureaucratic technicalities of disbursement. Rigid systems, then and now, remain unresponsive to realities on the ground, presenting everyday dilemmas to our commanders. The AFP had long sought to address this problem by presenting proposals to the COA but these had not gained support. Thus, a problem identified 14 years ago—many say it is a "necessary evil"—today remains un-addressed. (This has reference to the practice of "conversion" in the use of AFP funds.)

(4) The role of media in public service. Abaya expressed concern that "all too often, rumor-reporting and trial by publicity can aggravate rather than resolve crises." He went on to say "I do not have a prescription but let me paraphrase the Davide Commission's recommendation—*The resolution of the dilemma faced by media in crisis reporting lies more in the media itself rather than government regulations...Because the preferred option is self-regulation and self-discipline, media should proceed with their initiatives in formulating their own ethical standards*."

* * *

As he moved to the end of his farewell speech, there were seconds of silence as he strove to keep his emotions under control. Abaya acknowledged that "I have never aspired to be popular or to be great. And in the twilight of my career, I am content with the thought I did my duty to the best of my abilities.... In all humility, I may not have been the best chief of staff that you challenged me to be. But I assure you, Madame President, that I gave my very best."

Departure area

HIGH BLOOD

Narita Manuel-Gonzalez

WE'D also like to know the concerns of the sixtysomething and above, what makes their blood pressure rise or makes them sit back, content that all's well with their world and with themselves. —Ed.

A WING of the first floor of the Jesuit residence in Loyola has two special places—a chapel and, at the back of it are the medical rooms, equipped with hospital beds, for ailing Jesuits. There's a clinic station with nurses on duty every day. We call this clinic/hospice, the "Departure Area" because the next journey for most of the Jesuit patients there was the final one—to the Jesuit Novaliches Resting Place.

Now, in the University of the Philippines campus, we say a friend—especially if already old—is in the Departure Area if he or she is seriously ill. But, sometimes, we overuse the term. When we feel extremely sick, we tell friends we are in the Departure Area.

I'm not really sick, immobile, semi-blind or semi-deaf, and I pray to God, never to make me a candidate of that dreaded, old-age illness called "Alzheimer." But I am house-bound, not allowed to go out alone, not even to church which is only two blocks away. I'm never left alone in the house. There must always be someone—a maid, a granddaughter or a grandson—who must be with me in the house. One morning, my oldest granddaughter, Bang, admonished me, "Please Lola, when we are all still asleep, don't go out to the garden." The time was six o'clock in the morning. I would have been off to Mass if I could walk by myself.

Why the admonition? I have a pacemaker. My cardiologist said I'm not to die of heart attack, but if I slipped and banged my head, or broke my hips, the medical problem would be more worrisome and serious.

So, what do I do now? I am neither in the Departure Area nor too far from it. I'm 86 years old. I undergo physical therapy—to exercise the limbs, especially the legs. I use a cane when I venture out. My bath must be prepared for me because I have to sit down on a chair. I hear, "Please Lola don't lock the door," every time I am in the comfort room.

I shouted once—only once—in our 57 years of marriage, when my husband automatically locked the bathroom door. I was astonished at the loudness of my voice: "NVM I told you not to lock the door!" I used his name and spoke in English, too. I'm more articulate in English, being an Ilocano-Cebuano, and a half-baked Tagalog. NVM was already having dialysis then. And I knew that many accidents happen in the bathroom. I justified the shouting because of my mounting fear for NVM's health and he knew that.

Without making it too apparent to my family, I am preparing for my final journey. I cannot forget how an uncle in Zambales prepared for his final trip. At one time, while I was in his house to spend the night, I happened to see a coffin, painted black, resting securely on three roof beams. It was for him, and he was not even sick then.

No, I don't have a pre-selected coffin yet. I haven't decided what color it should be. But I have prepared a will, and in there I have written that I want to be cremated, my urn of ashes to be buried beside my husband. I have to finalize this burial request. I already have a large photograph, used in the Fokien Times yearbook and recently also printed in the Philippine Tatler. Who really started this pictorial display over one's coffin?

I have told some members of our Tuesday Circle choir that my favorite songs are "Amazing Grace," "Come Holy Spirit," and "Our Father." They'll know what to sing then. "Hindi Kita Malilimutan" is another favorite.

A special going-away party for terminal cancer patient, I cannot forget. My friend, wife of an American professor in Hayward, California, knew her time was up. So did her Ilocano relatives and friends. We were invited to attend this farewell gathering. Our "celebrant patient" was seated in the center of her circle of friends and relatives. There was singing as she was being given a crown of flowers. There was more singing and prayers. But there was no funereal atmosphere, no crying or weeping. What was unusual to me was that my dying friend had also selected who was to be her American husband's second wife. And she was one of her Ilocana friends. Some years ago, I jokingly told my children that should I go first, my husband has the permission to marry again, but only after three years. I don't know why I specified three years.

Only the Almighty Lord knows the time and hour of one's departure to His Home. May all departure areas be happy and peaceful places. While waiting for the Lord to call our names, we have to continually pray that He stays with us, by our side, always.

Narita Manuel-Gonzalez, 86, is the widow of the late National Artist NVM Gonzalez.

Talking with young women

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

CAGAYAN DE ORO—At the end of the first day of the "Orientation on Gender Issues for Young Women Leaders in Mindanao," sponsored by Pilipina through the support of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, we asked the participants two questions. "Has it been easy for you to be a girl?" "What strikes you most about today's inputs and discussions?"

The group reports, which we asked the young women to "sum up" by way of hand-drawn posters, ranged from a hopeful diagram of a caterpillar's metamorphosis into a butterfly, to an illustration of a girl's "gender journey" from the cocoon of ignorance to wings of independence and awareness; to a painful depiction of a woman in chains bearing a cross struggling toward sunlight and hope.

The sharing was rich with personal experience and insights, some painful, others humorous and ironic, all honest and "from the heart."

For the most part, the young women spoke of first-hand experiences with discrimination not at the hands of men but at the hands of their parents. One spoke of being discouraged by her parents from pursuing a medical course, with her father telling her: "If you were a boy, then I would not have second thoughts about spending the money on you." Others mentioned discriminatory rules on curfews and socializing, with parents dismissing the girls' protests with a succinct "men cannot be raped." Another recalled growing up with the impression that "sex is bad," mainly because the topic of sex was rarely, if ever, discussed at home.

As one of the group reporters expressed: "When we question our parents' restrictions, they tell us to trust them and follow them because they've been down that road before. But we want to tell our parents that we want to follow a different road, and how will we know what road is for us if they will not allow us to explore on our own?"

* * *

THEIR "*ates*" and "*titas*" in Pilipina, who had made the same journey into feminism 20 or so years before, were shocked. First, because these were much the same issues of discrimination and denial, suppression and silence that we raved and ranted against all those many years ago. And second, because we realized that the "parents" these young women were complaining about belonged to "our" generation. "We" were the parents who were making their lives miserable! Did our own children feel the same way?

Indeed, the same problems remain, resistant to change, and taking on new forms. If they were to disappear entirely from our social and personal landscape, perhaps there would no longer be any need for a women's movement.

But what seems to have changed is the attitude the young women of today bring to their situation. Where in our time we were fueled by rage at the persistence of gender inequities, and daunted by the sheer number and severity of the problems that needed addressing, the young women we were talking with expressed an exhilarating sense of discovery and enlightenment. "We want to know the ways to break free and the ways we can use our freedom to fully become ourselves," said one rapporteur.

* * *

THE 75 young women had come from Cagayan de Oro and other towns in Misamis Oriental, from Butuan and Agusan del Sur, Davao, Bukidnon and Marawi.

We greatly appreciated the presence of our young Muslim women, who were observing Ramadan; still they participated fully and energetically in the discussions and group activities despite the fact that they were fasting.

It was they who brought up the conflicts between their loyalty to and pride in their traditions and culture, and the restrictions these placed on them, as women, and their search for a workable, reasonable balance.

Of all the presentations on the first day, the most remarkable, the young women said, was an animated film, long a staple of feminist consciousness-raising, called "Impossible Dream."

The film depicts, in a highly humorous manner, the "typical" life of a wife and mother, and the heavy burden of responsibilities she bears, from homemaking to childbearing to child-rearing. Then the woman is shown relaxing and dreaming of life under a different arrangement, specifically one where her husband and the father of her children takes up his share of household and family responsibilities. Is this indeed an "impossible dream"?

I don't know if it was the humorous approach or the simple truths outlined in the film. Perhaps it was the way the film fleshed out the theories we were discussing and exploring. Or was it because the young women found the topic "funny" because, with most of them still single, they had yet to confront the realities of the double burden?

* * *

THE PAST two days have been such a rich learning opportunity, and not just for the young, or rather, younger women.

We may have been doing the talking, sharing and raising of consciousness. But we have also been learning, discovering new areas of feminist discourse as well as recognizing the persistence of certain forms of gender-based discrimination—especially in the family—that we have forgotten or have even been unconsciously practicing as parents.

Remmy Rikken, one of Pilipina's founding mothers, recalled that early in our feminist formation, we relied on a book called "My Mother, Myself" as the basic outline of our consciousness-raising sessions to explore how we "grew" into the women we had become, to recognize what needed changing and what needed to be preserved. One of the things we want to preserve and enrich is the link between mothers and daughters, pursuing the unfinished conversation where we seek to impart life lessons and wisdom; opening our daughters' eyes to painful realities that, we hope, we have not somehow helped preserve; and, in fact, enlisting their help in eradicating them.

The military in a corrupt society

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

"MORE than any other comparable Filipino elite, the officer corps had been created and defined by the nation. No other group had its social role, ideology and personal values so directly, so fundamentally shaped by the state." So writes the historian Alfred W. McCoy in his fascinating book, "Closer Than Brothers" (Anvil Publishing), a comparative study of two batches in the Philippine Military Academy—the classes of 1940 and 1971.

Only 30 years separate these two PMA classes from one another, notes McCoy, and yet the difference in mind-set is so sharp that one would have thought they were bred by two distinct institutions. "Class '40 is a study of successful military socialization....Graduating on the eve of war, Class '40 won honors for fighting enemy invaders, were ennobled by privation in Japanese prisoner war camps, and emerged with their bonds and values stiffened....As soldiers in a society permeated by patronage politics, Class '40 faced incessant pressures to compromise. Their careers required, on a daily basis, mediation of the paradoxical, even contradictory role of the military in a democratic society—subordinated to politicians yet apolitical; armed yet nonviolent, all-powerful yet powerless."

At the other end is Class '71, "a study in the breakdown of military socialization," says McCoy. "Instead of fighting enemy invasion, the young lieutenants of Class '71 were brutalized by combat against Muslims in Mindanao and interrogation of suspected subversives in Manila....They emerged from a decade in the safe houses of the Marcos regime with a superman sense of themselves as creator/destroyers who could seize the state and transform society."

It was to Class '40 that men of honor like Gen. Victor Osias and Commodore Ramon Alcaraz, who both refused to compromise with Marcos, belonged. Addressing the members of the PMA class of 1990, who had joined the 1987 coup as cadets, Alcaraz sharply reminded his young audience of what it meant to be a soldier: "Go forth out there and be a strong moral force in transforming the military into a profession of honor which it used to be."

To Class '71, on the other hand, belong the officers who plotted the 1986 coup that led to Edsa I, and controversial figures like colonel and former senator Gregorio Honasan who mounted coups against the Aquino government, and police general and now senator Panfilo Lacson, whose record McCoy associates with torture and summary execution of criminal suspects. McCoy's unkindest depiction of them is as political egomaniacs who played god. Nowhere in the book is there a mention of Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia, another member of this class. The information that the US government has shared about the amount of money that General Garcia and his family have brought into the United States over the past 10 years demonstrates the magnitude of corruption in the military. An updated version of the book would no doubt include a whole chapter on General Garcia—one more proof of the decline of honor among the officers who were initiated into the cynical ways of power under Marcos.

It would be unfair to single out one PMA batch and ascribe to it all the failings of military leadership. But indeed no PMA class has figured in more controversies as the Class of '71. This class clearly counted in its ranks many strong individuals with great leadership potential. McCoy's point is that these soldiers used these qualities to ruin the nation in whose image they were cast, because somewhere along the way they lost their basic military values and began to imagine themselves as worthy players in a society ruled by corrupt politicians.

McCoy explains this as a failure of military socialization. This view places the onus of responsibility for the failings of the officer corps on the Philippine Military Academy and its curriculum. We may need to dig deeper than that to understand the problem.

It is a fact that the modern values instilled in the minds of PMA cadets bear little resemblance to the distorted values of our society. But this is nothing unusual. The education of a student in any of our better universities features the same discrepancy. There is nothing wrong with the socialization of our young people. But the ideals they learn at school are easily negated by the practical realities of the world into which they are subsequently thrown. Members of the Class of 1940 remained men of honor because they did not have to contend with political leaders as vicious as those we have today. Like the rest of their generation, they were animated by the spirit of nation-building. Today's politicians are seldom gripped by such ideals. You cannot have professional soldiers in a nation governed by corrupt and incompetent leaders. They will either try to seize power or become part of the rotten system.

Ex-Captain Rene Jarque says as much in a poignant letter he recently wrote to his fellow Filipino West Pointers: "We have known the rottenness of the system all along and how the culture in the AFP was not and is not conducive to professional growth and honest conduct. It was never reflective of the Academy's motto, 'Duty, Honor, Country.' Some of us gave it a chance, found it unwieldy and incorrigible, and left. Some stuck with the system and played it out only to be sucked into the vortex of corruption and unprofessional conduct. I was trying my best to be as professional and as patriotic but I could never be honest given the extent of the graft and corruption in the AFP. And that was, I believed, unacceptable to my sense of honor and integrity. Hence, I left."

* * *

Comments to davidinquirer@yahoo.com

THEY SAID

Beyond doubt

"There should be no shadow of doubt that this administration is not tolerating corruption."

—House Minority Leader Rep. Francis Escudero, calling for the withdrawal of Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes' appointment papers pending satisfactory explanation of the retired general's P18-million assets

Outrageous wealth

"Millions of people are trying to discover alternative meals to satisfy their hunger. It's an outrage to learn of officials who have enriched themselves in power."

—Bayan Muna Rep. Joel Virador

Multiplying problems

"If you don't solve a fiscal problem, it would lead to a crisis of confidence on the part of foreign capital markets. Then much bigger problems start."

—Former Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas governor Gabriel Singson, who was also a senior deputy governor when the country declared a debt moratorium in 1983

Good story, bad lesson

"Robin Hood makes a good story but gives a bad lesson."

—Pangasinan Archbishop Oscar Cruz on the practice of referring needy people to the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. and the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office

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TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to
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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

How should we manage our debt?

THE DIFFERENT views featured in Talk of the Town about the causes of the fiscal crisis and the measures that need to be taken to fix the economy continue to elicit reactions from readers here and abroad.

The debate between economists from the University of the Philippines and members of non-government organizations, on the one hand, and between certain NGOs themselves, on the other, prompted Edwin A. Sumcad to submit an article on the fiscal crisis.

Sumcad, who is based in the United States, says the cause of the crisis is corruption—the filching of capital infusions from abroad.

He suggests that the Philippines learn something from South Korea, which has curbed corruption, pursued rapid industrialization and adopted an outward-looking strategy.

For him, cutting ties to the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank is suicidal.

But economist Alejandro Lichauco claims that the country is poor precisely because of the policies of the Washington-based multilateral agencies. He says that IMF prescriptions of opening up the domestic market to imports, devaluation, and fiscal and monetary restraint have led to the destruction of local industries and cuts in social services.

He wants the government to unilaterally repudiate the country's debt, the most radical proposal advanced so far to address the debt problem.

RP can learn from the Korean experience

By Edwin (Ed.S.) A. Sumcad

The problem with "scholars" jumping to the rescue is that in a purported attempt to put out the fire, gasoline is thrown into it. Studies and recommendations turned out to be claptrap coming from politicized or subverted economists. We know most of them as rabid advocates of the 1970s' inward-looking nationalism if not ultra-nationalists who are more loyal to their political agenda than to the country.

Ultra-nationalism divides the country, especially when left-leaning radicals fight among themselves over what is supposed to be good for the country after Ferdinand E. Marcos left the scene. They only agree on one thing: blame foreign investment, development aid and external debt as the culprit in all of the nation's woes.

The economy is limping. It is suicidal to attack and sever relations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. (Examine the fiscal crisis papers that opposed each other, i. e., the UP, Bello et. al. reports, trade liberalization and tariff reforms of polarized graduate students, etc. that appeared in the Inquirer News Service among others.)

In the fiscal crisis debate, contrary to the position of those "scholars," public debt, regardless of size, is not a deathblow to the economy. In fact, it is required. It is debt mismanagement and massive corruption (as in the case of Argentina and the Philippines) that push the economy to the verge of collapse. It is not really what they say it is.

Benign

The truth of the matter is that the $56.3 billion debt burden of the Philippines as of September 2004 is not something for ultranationalists to scare the hell out of a disquieted nation. In fact, it may be categorized only as "benign."

South Korea's external liabilities totaled $129.7 billion at the end of 1999, the seventh largest in the world. Brazil topped the list with $244.6 billion, followed by Russia's $173.9 billion and Mexico's $166.9 billion.

South Korea is now the world's showcase on how massive foreign debt pulled the nation from morass to become a newly industrialized country. In 1990, it was the 10th most indebted country with $34.9 billion of debt and the fourth with $136.9 billion in 1997 when the country was hit hardest by the Asian financial crisis. The Philippines is far removed from this debt list debacle.

Classroom exercise

The Korean economy had the world's worst short-term maturing liabilities, making attempts at solving the Philippine problem by members of the academe like a classroom exercise. Within less than one year, this fiscal nightmare reached $34.7 billion in 1999, topping the list of more than 140 economically disabled indebted countries.

It is how massive debts are managed that gives imperiled nations a life-defining outcome. For instance, in the mismanaged case of the Philippines, if maturing debt payments are backed up by healthy foreign exchange reserves, there should have been no cause for alarm. But in debt management, the Philippines and South Korea parted in so many ways.

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The Philippine ratio of short-term liabilities to its niggardly foreign exchange reserves violated international safeguards, thus the country has been unable to ward off impending disasters like what is now causing this finger pointing. Under deathwatch, Korean leaders pegged this ratio at 45 percent on the average—well below the 60 percent which is considered stable under World Bank standards. In the case of the Philippines, politicized ultra-nationalists barked up the wrong tree when they attacked the prescribed life jackets for a drowning economy.

The first step South Koreans took was to deworm the country of the corruption parasite the Syngman Rhee's First Republic had infected the nation. As in the case of Argentina, high government officials spent time behind bars.

Rapid industrialization

Poor in natural resources, with low savings rate and a small domestic market, South Korea's subsequent rapid industrialization relied on an outward-looking strategy. Government initiatives played an important role in this process. The inflow of foreign capital was greatly encouraged to supplement the shortage of domestic savings. Ultra-nationalism and petty politics slowly gave way to the private sector's *chaebol* cooperative engagement with the government starting, in the 1990s, with long-term investments programmed toward competing in the global market. Production and marketing of Korean cars worldwide are among the proof of this success.

While the future of the Philippines is bleak, that of South Korea is bright, although the *chaebol* concept of industrialization may yet be challenged by the imponderables of globalization. Nonetheless, in debt management, South Koreans learned the ropes fast enough. Unlike the Edsa leadership, Koreans in government are no longer paralyzed with fear that their massive foreign debt, one of the world's highest per capita, may deal their economy a deathblow.

The most irritating problem that insults the mentality of the public is that those politicized "scholars" in Manila still don't get it—this national crisis is not caused by what they are harping about but by the Edsa mentality and massive corruption that is bleeding the nation dry.

Debauchery

Since Marcos' time, this debauchery has grown larger and larger, smarter and smarter. This is exactly the case of Argentina. Corruption forced Argentina to sink into the quagmire of huge mismanaged debt fatal to the economy as what is now happening in the Philippines, except that notorious crooks in the Philippines are not incarcerated.

The Philippines can be saved by any leader endowed with enough economic sense, but not by any pretender to the presidency whose associates in power are likened to carnivorous dinosaurs ready to devour the nation's patrimony.

Missing their target by miles, those publicized crisis papers are at their best, histrionics, and at their worst, toxic. What is striking is the suggestion to tax some more the already economically anemic population, that is, to suck out more blood money from the suffering wage earners. It could light the fuse of civil strife across the country.

Taxes will backfire

The notion that to tax will give the government more money to balance the budget is at best palliative if not misleading. It will hit back the economy because more taxes can contract the economy. The government sucks money from corporate and household spenders, and gives it to foreign creditors because of the heavy debt burden, if not stashed away as private bank deposits abroad of crooks in government. Hardly is there any left to pump back into the system that would make the economy move forward (refer to the Harold-Domar model).

Trade liberalization and tariff reform issues may be regarded only as the tail, not the eye, of this raging fiscal storm. What those recommendations hope to achieve depends largely on a well-defined situation, which is not the case in the present imbroglio, because the cause of the crisis is dimensional. For example, to steal the nation's resources is not a component of the equilibrium equation between national savings and investment where national income can be skillfully manipulated to rise. Thus, if this attitudinal and material corruption is neither purged out of the system nor addressed in determining the cause of the problem, those "scholars" are just wasting their saliva and absconding with our time.

Filipinos are trapped in odious debt, hence this crisis, because the capital infusions did not go to the model of economic development. Those resources were systematically plundered. What you have is not only fiscal but economic crisis of inexcusable nightmarish proportions.

(Sumcad was the only lawyer-financial economist in the Working Group in the Central Bank of the Philippines in the late 1960s and early 1970s under the Fiscal Policy Committee. His thesis in economics graduate school was foreign debt, while fiscal policy was his specialization in his studies at the UN Asian Development Institute. He has AA; Litt.B. Journalism; LLB, MA Economics; and LLM, University of San Diego, School of Law. He is currently a board member and a regular columnist in the Philippines & World Report, published in San Di[illegible] Californ[illegible].)

Repudiate the debt

By Alejandro Lichauco

We have become a land of hungry people, where hungry mothers sell their bodies and their babies, where hungry father sell their kidneys, where hungry farmers eat field rats, where hungry parents seek work even in terror-stricken Iraq, where hungry infants die every day at the nation's public hospitals, and where hungry children begging for food in the nation's streets have become as common a sight as uncollected garbage.

Having been in the active, continuous supervision of the economy since 1962, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) must accept primary responsibility for the consequences of its policy prescriptions.

A major consequence and byproduct of those prescriptions has been the foreign debt for which the IMF must take full responsibility. Those policy prescriptions, notably devaluation, have backfired and aggravated the poverty problem. This is a fact acknowledged by no less than the staff of the IMF in a study released in 1988.

For insisting on those prescriptions, the IMF must be held to have acted in bad faith.

The policy prescriptions—being a deadly mix of the continuous opening of the domestic market to imports, continuous devaluation of the peso and fiscal-monetary restraint—have led to and explain the destruction of local industries, the continuous rise in prices and a depressive influence on business as well as in unnecessary cuts in welfare services.

The IMF prescriptions have proved to be a formula for hunger.

The policy prescriptions were designed to suppress industrialization. The IMF and the World Bank opposed the effort of Ferdinand Marcos to start industrialization based on 11 major industrial projects.

Foreign loans, which translate into the foreign debt, were the carrot and stick with which the IMF persuaded a succession of submissive governments to accept the deadly mix of prescriptions.

As part of its strategy to have the Philippine government accept its policy prescriptions, the IMF utilized the nation's major economic functionaries, notably the debt negotiators, for the purpose, improperly inducing in them a behavioral pattern of double allegiance.

The continued existence of the foreign debt deprives the Philippines of its economic sovereignty so that as long as those debts are outstanding, the country continues to be subject to the onerous conditionalities of the IMF, leaving the government powerless to adopt an independent developmental strategy appropriate to the real needs of the nation—particularly the need to transform into a newly industrialized country.

The repercussions of the foreign debt and servicing thereof violate the basic human rights of the people to devise a socioeconomic system that would ensure full employment and enable them to lift themselves from a life of hunger and deprivation to which the IMF conditonalities have purposely condemned them.

The foreign debt is both the symbol of the nation's enslavement as well as the weapon with which the IMF, described by Malaysia's former Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad as "agents of the new colonialism," keeps the Filipino people enslaved and preserved in poverty and underdevelopment as the old colonialism did.

The Senate of the Philippines, as the proper highest policy-making body of the land, and which has the power of review over treaty commitments and agreements entered into by the Executive Department, now has the inescapable obligation to the Filipino people to initiate the process of debt repudiation through a resolution declaring it the sense of the chamber that the debt should be unilaterally repudiated.

The proposed Senate resolution should be transmitted to the United Nations along with a formal complaint against the IMF denouncing that body for having deliberately created the debt problem through policies that have transformed the Philippines—once the most promising and best performing economy in East Asia—into a humanitarian disaster.

(Lichauco, a Harvard-trained economist, was an adviser of President Diosdado Macapagal, but he resigned two years after. He was a member of the 1971 Constitutional Convention. He is also a member of the Civil Liberties Union of the Philippines.)

Dollar RoPs can be a blessing or a curse

By Romeo L. Bernardo

One aspect of government's debt problem that seems to have missed scrutiny is the large share of dollar-denominated securities issued in the international capital markets. Popularly known as RoPs, these securities comprise 42 percent of government's outstanding foreign debt in 2003 compared with just 11 percent in 1999 (from almost nil in the early 1990s). What is the significance of this?

As has been often discussed, this large exposure to the capital markets means that unlike in the past decade, government today is much more exposed to the international market's mood swings. This makes it vulnerable to the "event risk," or the risk of some unexpected "news," economic or political, causing markets to close down abruptly, with government either unable to refinance its maturing obligations or to refinance at reasonable terms.

With the country's large refinancing requirements (roughly $3 billion in 2005, not counting refinancing needs of private dollar bond issuers), a sudden confidence run can be costly in terms of the additional spread demanded by the market, or worse, can precipitate a payments crisis.

Less talked about is the link between fiscal solvency and financial sector solvency resulting from this RoPs. Given the attractiveness of RoPs yield-wise (estimated after tax peso return of 18 percent for the 10-year bond), and regulation-wise (no capital charge under currently-adopted risk-based capital standards), local banks have become major buyers of RoPs.

It is estimated that about $9 billion out of $13 billion assets of local foreign currency deposit units are invested in RoPs. In addition to booking RoPs, banks have also developed derivative instruments with RoPs as underlying assets that multiply leverage and vulnerability. These activities provide a channel through which a fiscal crisis can feed into a financial crisis.

By itself, the fact that a significant portion of RoPs are held by local banks, either for their own or their trust accounts, offers some comfort as local investors can be expected to have greater appetite for its own government's risk. This helps to insulate government from any knee-jerk market reaction.

Also, in all likelihood, most depositors do not even realize that their banks are heavily invested in RoPs, or even if they do, have limited options to move deposit accounts out of the country, especially with stringent international protocols in place pertaining to anti-money laundering. Likewise, under existing prudential standards where RoPs are zero risk-weighted, buying RoPs is a "no-brainer" for banks and thus, banks and their clients constitute a captive market for these government issues.

From a financial sector stability viewpoint, however, the magnitude of bank exposure to government risk gives one pause. At the time of its debt default in 2001, Argentina's banks were similarly exposed to government risk through their holdings of government local and foreign currency bonds and loans.

Although total exposure was not extreme—reportedly 21 percent of total assets in 2000—this was a source of vulnerability for the banking system, especially when confidence started to wane and depositors ran for the exit. As analysts observed, moves in 2000 to de-link the financial system from the fiscal problem, e.g., marking government bonds to market, required positive weighting for government loans, came a little too late to shield the system from the fiscal blowup.

Of course, the Philippines is not in the same boat as Argentina. Argentina's crisis was a confluence of several factors, consisting not only of weak public finances and a banking system vulnerable to government default, but perhaps most importantly, an overvalued currency due both to the appreciation of the dollar (to which the Argentine peso was pegged under a currency board arrangement) against the euro (Argentina's major trading partners) and the devaluation of Brazil's currency, which reduced the competitiveness of Argentina's exports.

Thus, while Argentina's fiscal deficits like ours ran unabated, it also incurred deficits in its current account and experienced declines in its international reserves, at the same time that its domestic economy was contracting.

(Bernardo, a former finance undersecretary, is the president of Lazaro Bernardo Tiu & Associates, Inc.)

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Ilocos Norte town mayor murdered

By Cristina Arzadon
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LAOAG CITY—Mayor Eleuterio Mabanag, 58, of Vintar, Ilocos Norte, was jogging on his usual route in his town on Saturday morning when three men shot him at close range. Mabanag died instantly.

His police escort, SPO1 Nestor de San Juan, was also killed while a civilian escort, Rogelio de Leon, was wounded and taken to a hospital.

Senior Supt. Rolando Rabara, Ilocos Norte police director, said Mabanag and his two escorts were jogging at Barangay Margaay at 6:20 a.m. Saturday when two or three armed men approached them and without provocation started shooting them. Vintar police investigators said the suspects used M-14 and M-16 rifles in the attack.

A witness, who was also jogging at that time, told investigators that one suspect was wearing military fatigue pants and a ski mask. The witness failed to describe the other suspects.

"The ski mask-wearing suspect approached Mabanag while he was jogging near an irrigation canal and shot him at close range," Rabara said, quoting the witness.

Mabanag had been taking his daily exercises at that route, a popular jogging area.

Gunshots

The witness said it was only minutes after he passed by Mabanag's group when he heard the gunshots.

Rabara said the police were looking at political and personal rivalry as the motive for the killing.

Mabanag, a former vice mayor, was serving his second term as mayor of Vintar, 5 km from this city. He won over his closest rival Eric Ong during the May 10 elections this year.

Mabanag served the unexpired term of former Mayor Juanito Albano who died after the 2001 elections.

Police and election officials described the 2004 elections in Vintar as "bloody," with supporters of Mabanag and Ong resorting to violence and political attacks before the elections.

Unsolved murders

Director General Edgar Aglipay, Philippine National Police chief, flew to Ilocos Norte on Saturday morning and met with local police officials.

Aglipay visited the crime scene and ordered Rabara to hunt the suspects.

Ilocos Norte Gov. Ferdinand Marcos Jr. earlier pressed the alarm bell due to the spate of killings in Ilocos Norte. He also sought Aglipay's help in solving the string of unsolved murders in the province.

Mabanag's killing was the latest violent incident in the province this month. Last week, a village captain in Pinili town was gunned down by his brother.

Church questions militia recruitment in Occidental Mindoro

CITY OF CALAPAN—Church leaders here questioned the recruitment by the military of militiamen for the counter insurgency operation in Occidental Mindoro.

The Apostolic Vicariate of San Jose (AVC-SJ), through Bishop Antonio Palang, issued a three-page pastoral statement questioning the recruitment of members of the Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit (Cafgu).

"Is it really true that the peace and order situation in the province has reached the point that there is now a need to solicit the help of civilians for military operations?" the statement said.

"In cases where there is conflict between the assessments of the military and the village officials, what will prevail? And supposing the paramilitary men are in the line of duty, will they not just be a cannon fodder?" the statement asked.

The AVC-SJ cited the abuses committed by what used to be called the Civilian Home Defense Force, which, it said, was used by individuals with vested interests, including corrupt politicians, for their private armies.

Former Sen. Wigberto Tañada, the Senate human rights committee chair in the 1990s, himself recommended the dismantling of the militia, said the statement.

Palang said that in the pursuit of justice, the recruitment of Cafgu members would not do anything good as the usual motive of one in joining, if not for a living, is hatred, for revenge or access to firearms.

In Sta. Cruz town, members of the Sangguniang Pambayan and league of barangays, in a meeting Sept. 28, passed a five-page position paper entitled "Ayaw namin ng Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit (We don't want Cafgu)."

The paper said 2Lt. Jerico Mangalus, Alpha company commanding officer and spokesperson of the 16th Infantry Battalion, Philippine Army, told residents in a symposium on Sept. 23 that 90 percent of the people of Sta. Cruz were New People's Army members or sympathizers.

"There's no need to form a Cafgu," said Sangguniang Bayan board member Oscar Catama.

"The applicants in our village are petitioners for land and they would just like to have firearms...," said Loregin Isidro, barangay captain of Alacaak. *Madonna T. Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Woman celebrates delivery of triplets in Tacloban

By Joey A. Gabieta
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY—"I am happy and overwhelmed."

That was how Jhornor Leanda, a 17-year-old single mother, described how she felt after giving birth to triplets—two girls and a boy—on Friday at the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center (EVRMC) of this city.

Jhornor, however, said that she has yet to see her triplets who were, upon delivery, placed separately in incubators by physicians.

The first-time mother, who delivered the three babies by cesarian operation, is in good condition. But the babies need close monitoring due to their very fragile health conditions, Dr. Cecil Allah said.

Jhornor delivered the babies on her eighth month of pregnancy. She stayed at the delivery room for almost three hours.

"We are taking a close monitoring of the three babies as they were born premature. Two of them have developed tachcypnea or fast breathing (sic)," Allah told the INQUIRER. Otherwise, she said, the three are in "stable condition."

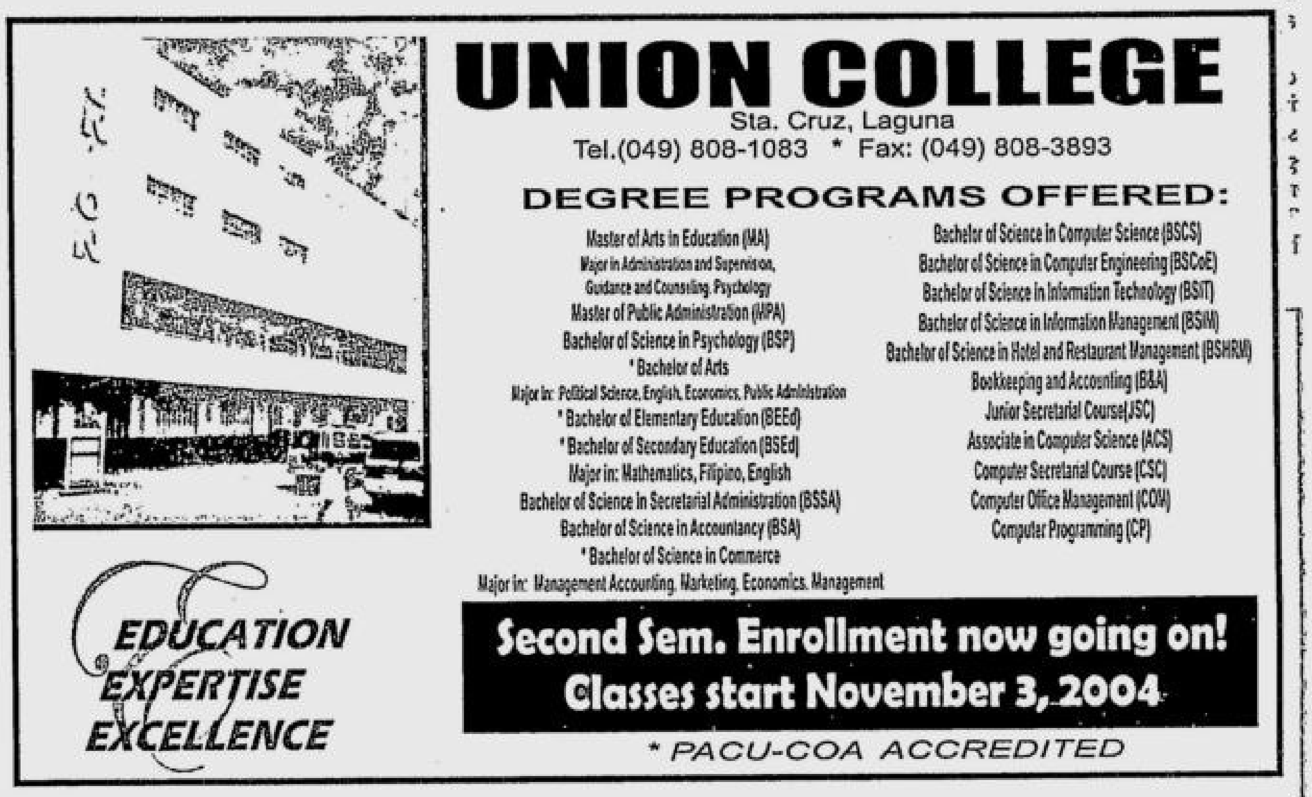
Allah, who is one of the pediatricians that are looking after the babies, said the triplets were given the names Maria Joana, Maria Josephine and Norjohn by their proud grandfather, Federico, 36.

Norjohn and Maria Joana were the ones who developed tachcypnea, according to Allah.

Based on the records of the hospital, Jhornor delivered Maria Joana at 1:24 a.m., with both Norjohn and Maria Josephine coming out in quick succession, separated by just a few seconds. Official records of the hospital, however, showed that the two younger children were delivered at 1:25 a.m.

Norjohn weighed 2,200 grams while her two sisters both weighed 1,800 grams.

The young mother told the INQUIRER that she knew that she would be delivering triplets as she underwent an ultrasound examination when she was seven months pregnant.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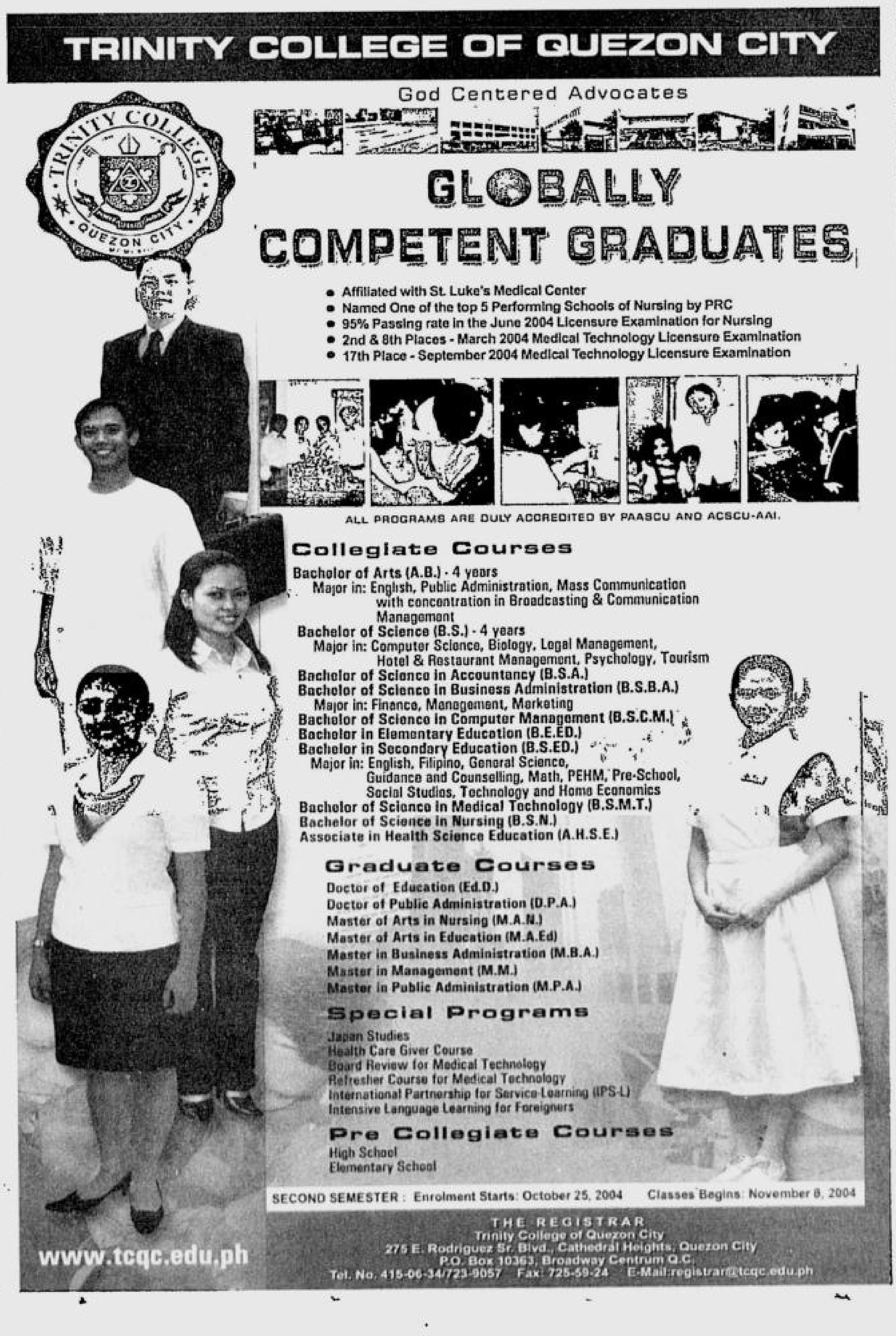
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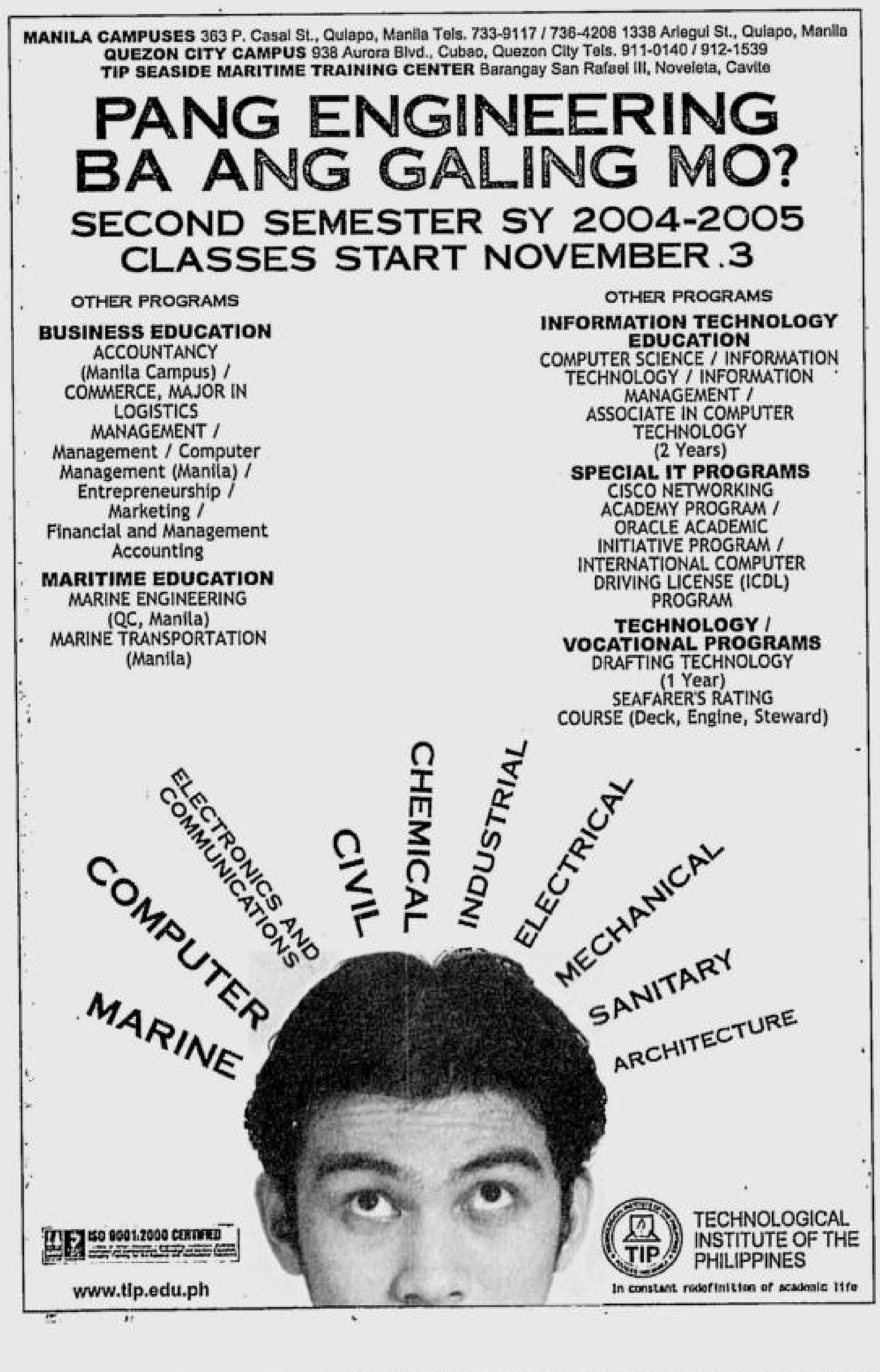
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Arrests lead police to thriving drug trade in Nueva Vizcaya jail

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—Local government and police officials have uncovered widespread drug trafficking inside the provincial jail, confirming earlier reports that drug lords have penetrated the provincial capitol for their activities.

This developed as members of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) earlier arrested two suspected drug pushers in a shabu buy-bust operation within the provincial capitol here where the provincial jail is situated.

Arrested were Noel Feliciano, 38, a former inmate, and Romulo Lictawa, 36. Feliciano yielded .5 gram of shabu and P1,000 in marked money.

Lictawa, an inmate at the provincial jail, was arrested in a follow-up operation. Seized from him were .5 gram of shabu and P1,000 in marked money.

Sources

"According to the suspects, the drugs came from the provincial jail," Insp. Ronald Ticque, provincial CIDG officer, said.

Ticque said Lictawa and Feliciano had told investigators that an inmate and a suspected drug pusher earned P30,000 a week by peddling shabu inside the jail.

The incident prompted the police to conduct a surprise search and inspection of the jail which houses 207 inmates.

Police recovered from a cell drug paraphernalia such as sachets for shabu, improvised tooters and assorted knives. Also recovered were marked money used by CIDG operatives during the buy-bust operation.

The cell was used by inmates who had been designated as jail trustees, Benzon Cadiente, provincial warden, said.

A security guard who requested anonymity said there was no regular inspection of cells to check drug peddling in the jail.

The provincial board last week approved a resolution authored by Board Member Patricio Dumlao Jr. seeking a mandatory drug test for guards in the provincial jail and capitol. *Ben Moses Ebreo, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

MA DIOSA LABISTE/PDI VISAYAS BUREAU

'ASWANG' FEAST

Children hold models of garlic during the country's first ever *aswang* (monster) festival held in Capiz, which is trying to erase its image of being a refuge of ghosts and ghouls.

Youth groups seek greater role in peace process

DAVAO CITY—Some 50 youth organizations representing the lumad, Moro and settler communities in Mindanao converged at a three-day youth summit here that ended on Thursday.

During the summit, the youths drafted a proposal called the Young People's Summit Declaration, which seeks "greater participation of young people in the grassroots monitoring of the ceasefire agreement" between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

The draft also listed some of their sector's problems.

Copies of the proposal would be submitted to the government and the MILF according to Balay Mindanao, a non-government organization that hosted the summit.

William Banzali, president of the United Youth of the Philippines-Davao Oriental Chapter, said being the main victims of armed hostilities in conflict-affected areas, young people want a greater role in the peace process to ensure that the warring forces comply with the ceasefire agreement.

The Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities by the military and the MILF was signed in 1998 and reaffirmed through an interim agreement in 2001 by both parties.

However, it has been violated through either major or minor offensives and counter-offensives in the provinces of Davao Oriental, North Cotabato, Maguindanao, Sultan Kudarat and Zamboanga Sibugay.

Banzali said young people would join other sectors in their communities in calling for adherence to the truce.

This, he said, would ensure that violence, which tends to catch innocent civilians in the crossfire, would not erupt.

Jun Mantawil, head of the MILF negotiating panel secretariat, said during talks with the participants that ceasefire agreements "are always the hardest to follow" in any peace negotiations anywhere in the world.

But Mantawil expressed optimism that with the coming of the Malaysian-led International Monitoring Team, the agreement would be strictly observed.

Aside from wanting a greater role in the peace process, the youths also urged the negotiating parties to "be more transparent on the peace process and agreements reached."

Transparency, they said, could be achieved through the conduct of updates and dialogues with communities including the young people.

The youths also listed several other agenda that they want the government to attend to, including a review of school curriculum to correct what they considered the lack of a true historical account of Mindanao.

Noel Maningula, a youth leader from the Teduray Lambangian tribal youth and students association in Maguindanao, said the existing education curriculum has not helped preserve indigenous culture. *PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Silica mining operation suspended over run-offs

By Romy G. Amarado
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—The Mines and Geosciences Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Central Visayas suspended the operation of a mining firm in Ayungon, a town some 78 km north of here, for environment destruction.

Roger A. De Dios, officer in charge of the bureau, ordered on Oct. 13 a stop to the silica mining operation of the Looc Lead Ores Inc. (LLOI).

The bureau asked the firm to build silt ponds and prevent leaks of mining wastes.

De Dios also ordered the LLOI to finalize a memorandum of agreement for the creation of the Mines Rehabilitation Fund Committee and the establishment of an initial Rehabilitation Cash Fund in the amount of P150,000 and the P50,000 Monitoring Trust Fund to be deposited in a government depository bank.

De Dios' order was based on the recommendation of the multipartite monitoring team, which conducted its third quarter monitoring activity of the LLOI on Sept. 1.

Ayungon Mayor Edsel Enardecido said he also recommended the suspension of the operation of LLOI because the firm's operation poses a great risk to rice farms of the town's Barangay Banban, which is one of the major rice producing villages in the province.

Earlier, some 108 farmers led by Vicente Luang filed a complaint with the DENR claiming that some 30 to 40 hectares of rice land in Banban were covered by residues and other mining wastes from the LLOI.

According to the complaint, Dugan started his silica mining activity in Banban sometime in 2001.

The complaining farmers said the area affected was "gradually increasing, depriving any vegetation to grow (sic) on the covered areas and portions of the irrigation canal have been destroyed."

"If this will go on unsolved it is estimated that about 500 hectares will be covered by the mining wastes," the farmers warned.

In an answer to the complaint, Moises Philip V. Siangco, vice president for operations of LLOI, said the petition was "driven and tainted with sinister ulterior motives—that is to have a leverage against the move of the company to develop its property."

Siangco said "a lot of the petitioners are squatters on the company's 17-hectare titled property which the company intends to get, use and develop as buffer zone to augment the mine operation's mitigating measures ... and more importantly to implement a solid and stable environmental control for the operation to protect other areas in case of fortuitous events."

Siangco said the petitioners have "capitalized on the isolated incident way back in 2001" where mine run-offs cascaded down to some rice areas that also destroyed the company's property, due to the fault of one of LLOI's mining contractors.

Tanong ng Bayan
INQ INQ TV
ABC Tuwing Huwebes, 10:30pm
I-text ang inyong "fearless view" sa 2910. Pipiliin namin ang pinakamagaling na sagot. Ang premyo linggo-linggo: isang 21" color TV set!
I-type: INQTV <ang inyong sagot>, <buong pangalan>, <siyudad o probinsiya>, tapos ipadala sa 2910. Cut-off time: WEDNESDAY, 6 PM. Winner will be identified during the InqTV program: Thursday, 10:30pm, on ABC.
text 2910
Garcia scandal sa AFP:Pakana nga ba ng CIA?
Narito ang ilan sa inyong mga sagot. Text na!
"oo pakana ng cia cia clang ingitan sa agency.yan pinoy crab mentality."
Joel Castillon, Valderrama, Antique
"hindi i2 ay pakana ng mga congresman ng opocsiton 2 distabilize our d aroyo admn para magalit ang afp kya may coup"
Ramiro Lawas, Canduman Mandaue city

Abra tribe continues traditional mourning rituals

By Artha Kira Paredes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LAGAYAN, Abra—Despite modernization, Tingguians of Abra practice the tribe's traditions in honoring the dead.

Alfredo Mabanag, president of the Tingguian Inlaod Council Association of Cordillera, said when the dead is embalmed and placed in a coffin, the Inlaod (lowland Tingguians) follow rituals.

The dead's relatives, while garbed in white, sing traditional songs based on their culture through the practice called *inamaga*.

The bereaved family members wear *longdo* or a *bandana* so they will be distinguished from the rest of the mourners.

Since traditional garments are now scarce, any white cloth is used as a substitute, Mabanag said.

During a wake, white ribbons and white crepe paper are used as sash for immediate male family members and as belts for females.

In expressing their condolences to a family and in trying to comfort those in mourning, the Inlaod practice the *sangsangit*, where one chants how much loss the family member's death has brought, Mabanag said.

Iningingalan is another chant where one describes the dead's educational attainment, disposition and family.

Punishment

In trying to ease the pain of relatives present during the wake, *sinaksakupan* is done. One teaches the audience a song that they follow. Whoever fails to go along is punished by asking him or her to perform a task or do a *sangsangit*.

The whole time during the wake, the *banglig*, or the practice of passing on *basi* (sugarcane wine) to visitors, continues.

On the night before the burial, the elders stay awake until morning when the dead is taken to his or her final resting place.

The *palpalubos* and *pakpakada* are the Tingguian versions of an eulogy, but these are not done in church but at the house of the dead before he or she is buried.

Pakpakada in Ilocano means saying goodbye. Someone who knows the dead well will represent him, bid his family members farewell and relay his final words through a *sangsangit*.

Philip Tingonong, provincial planning and development officer, said the *sangsangit* is a generic term for solemn Tingguian chants appropriate for wakes.

"They (participants) are more like actors and actresses on Broadway, especially that they express the common sentiments through songs or by chanting the *sangsangit*," Tingonong said.

In *palpalubos* (letting go), someone will represent the widow or widower to give a reply to the *pakpakada*. There will also be representatives of other relatives, visitors and members of the community.

After the *pakpakada* and *palpalubos*, the *panagdayaw ken pakamang*, is observed.

Tingonong described this ritual as one of the "best features" in the set of death rituals.

Offering

The ritual involved relatives, up to the fifth degree, offering food, wine or money to the bereaved family.

"Traditionally, they give food (*patupat*) and drinks (*basi*), but for practical reasons, relatives tend to give money in envelopes," Tingonong said.

During burial, mourners are given bamboo sticks, called *saplit*, to drive away bad spirits.

Two black pigs are butchered, one at the house of the dead and another one at the cemetery. This practice is called the *namumbunan*.

Pig blood is sprinkled at the final resting place of the dead to appease the bad spirits, Tingonong said.

After the burial, when mourners return to the house of the bereaved family, the pig blood is mixed with coconut oil and applied at the forehead of relatives. Leaves called *pagsenga* are used to apply the blood and oil in the relatives' feet.

After this, the white mourning clothes are removed and they dance the *tadek*. This ritual is called *agwagwag* because they try to shake off the grief brought about by mourning.

The liver of the pig is read for signs and is used for predictions for things to come in the family and community.

A day after the burial, an *atang* (offering) is made at the shaded corners outside the house.

NLEX rates OKd by FVR, not GMA, board told

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—The Manila North Luzon Tollways Corp. (MNTC) clarified on Wednesday that it was former President Fidel Ramos, not President Macapagal-Arroyo, who approved the agreement that increased toll rates along the North Luzon Expressway (NLEX) by 600 to 700 percent.

During an en banc provincial board hearing on the impending NLEX toll rates, Marlene Ochoa, MNTC assistant vice president for public information and external relations, told Vice Gov. Joseller Guiao and the board members here that Ramos approved the Supplemental Toll Operation Agreement (Stoa) in June 1998. The provincial officials said they thought it was Ms Arroyo who approved the agreement.

Ochoa, however, said former President Joseph Estrada and Ms Arroyo knew about the Stoa and did not object to it. She said the Department of Justice reviewed the agreement in 2000 and in 2002 and found it to be "legally sound and enforceable."

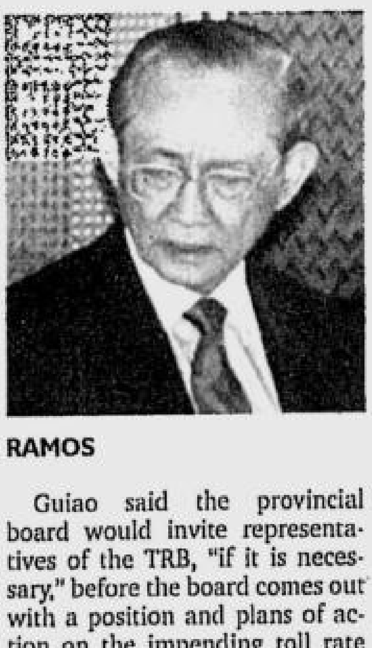
The Stoa, signed by the MNTC and the Philippine government through the Toll Regulatory Board in April 1998, originally authorized the MNTC to collect only 82 centavos per kilometer from cars, jeeps, vans and other light vehicles. But MNTC officials led by its president, Jose de Jesus, said the 82 centavos per km had risen to P2.49 per km because of the peso depreciation against the US dollar and inflation rates since 1998.

Before Christmas this year, the MNTC would start charging a fixed rate of P42 for all types of vehicles from Balintawak to Bocaue, Bulacan, and P2.49 per km for small vehicles from Bocaue to Mabalacat, Pampanga.

Light trucks and buses would have to pay P6.23 per km while heavy trucks and trailers P7.47 per km. For the entire stretch of the 84-km NLEX from Mabalacat, Pampanga to Balintawak in Quezon City, small vehicles would be charged about P200 one-way toll, buses and light trucks some P523, and heavy trucks and trailers, P627.

The original toll rate along the NLEX was 33 centavos per km but the government-owned Philippine National Construction Corp., which operates the expressway, adjusted the rate to 52 centavos per km on July 15.

Board Member Tars Halili said the Stoa was used by the MNTC to secure loans from Asian Development Bank and other international lending institutions.



RAMOS

Guiao said the provincial board would invite representatives of the TRB, "if it is necessary," before the board comes out with a position and plans of action on the impending toll rate adjustments. *Jun Malig, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

PAMPANGA CAPITAL FIRE

Building owners, 36 execs face raps

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—A panel investigating the Oct. 2 fire that killed eight workers of a supermarket here recommended on Friday the filing of criminal cases against the establishment's owners and the filing of administrative charges against 36 fire officials and personnel.

The panel, chaired by city legal officer Cecil Andin, found Tony and Marichu Choi, owners of the Popong's Suerte Mart, liable for reckless imprudence with multiple homicide.

In a report released on Friday, it said the owners "refused to correct and address the violations" of the fire safety code despite repeated warnings by the Bureau of Fire Protection.

Chief Insp. Johnny Caronan, this city's former fire marshal, was administratively liable because he issued a fire safety certificate to the supermarket despite violations of the Fire Code.

The panel said Supt. Emmanuel Arrozal, provincial fire marshal, and Chief Insp. Mario Racadio, the current fire marshal, as well as 33 firemen committed "neglect in the performance of their duties."

"They failed to at least exert efforts to attempt the rescue of the trapped victims," the panel said.

Mayor Oscar Rodriguez upheld the findings of the panel and ordered Andin, in coordination with the Philippine National Police, to file the charges on behalf of the victims.

They were trapped and charred to death on the fourth floor, which was illegally built.

The panel found former Mayor Reynaldo Aquino, now a Pampanga representative, not liable in what has been so far this capital's deadly fire.

City Administrator Fer Caylao said Aquino issued the mayor's permit based on a clearance signed by Caronan. The city government, he said, was not furnished reports by the BFP.

Rodriguez said he has "personal reservations" with the findings.

Asked what these were, he cited Aquino's role in setting up the Business One-Stop Shop that enabled the Chois to obtain a permit without compliance with Fire Code provisions.

The fourth floor had no fire exit and escape ladders. Its windows were padlocked and covered with metal grills.

City Engr. Fiorello Gopez was not held liable because he did not issue an occupancy permit to the supermarket owners.

Rodriguez on Friday also suspended the operations of the one-stop shop. Only the documents of business establishments that have complied with health, sanitary, fire and tax requirements will be processed, he said.

The panel, also comprised of Caylao, human resource officer Sonia Soto, engineer Renato Santos and Councilors Reden Halili, Alex Patio and Ruperto Dumlao, described the probe as "exhaustive."

Andin said the city government was pressing charges although the Chois continue to seek an out-of-court settlement with the families of the victims. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Quezon folk protest rampant quarrying

LUCENA CITY—About 7,000 protesters denounced the rampant quarrying in Quezon province and the continuous destruction of Mt. Banahaw, during a rally here Tuesday.

In a program held in front of the governor's office, the protesters led by Quezon Representatives Rafael Nantes and Proceso Alcala padlocked the office of the Provincial Mining and Regulatory Board to symbolize their disgust over the board's bad performance.

"The rampant quarry operations around Mt. Banahaw must stop. The quarry operators are blatantly destroying a fragile mountain, which needs complete protection and rehabilitation," Nantes said.

Several craters measuring several hundred square meters and at least six meters deep dot Sariaya town, the main source of aggregates for Metro Manila and Southern Tagalog since the construction boom began in the 1980s.

Sariaya government records show that at least 57 operators extract sand and gravel in the area.

Sariaya Mayor Connie Doromal said she was shocked when she first saw the extent of the quarry operations in her town. "We're now in the thick of investigation of all quarry operations in our locality," she told the INQUIRER.

The Lagnas Bridge in Sariaya collapsed at the height of typhoon "Rosing" in 1995 due to the strong current of the heavily mined river coming from the denuded portion of Mt. Banahaw.

The river current loosened the base of the bridge's foundation.

Two other towns, Tiaong and Dolores, also host several quarry operations.

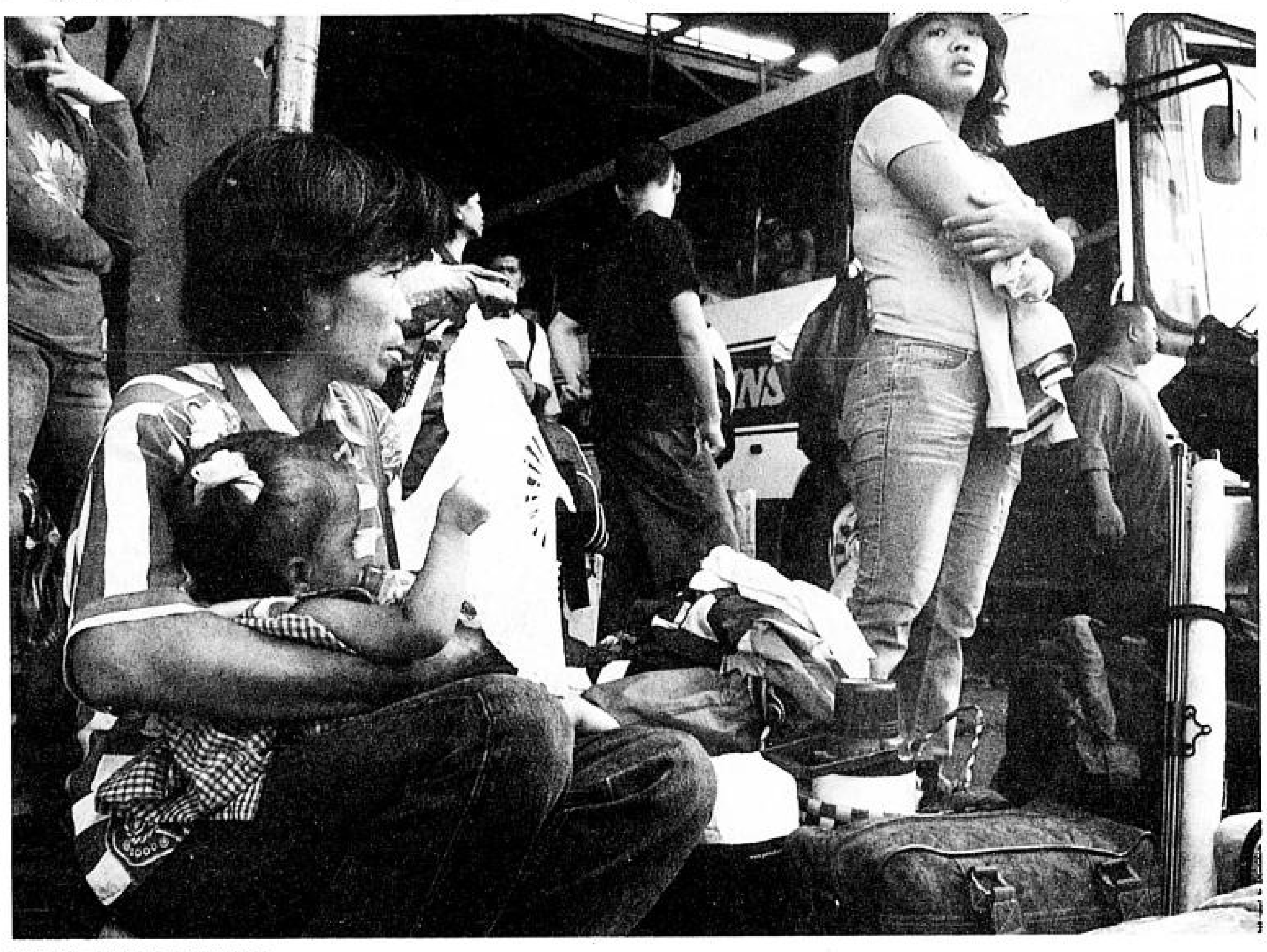
Fr. Raul Enriquez, chair of the Kapatiran at Alyansang Alay para sa Kaunlaran ng Bayan or Kaakbay-Quezon, which spearheaded the rally, appealed to all provincial board members to heed the people's call against quarry operations.

"If the Sangguniang Panlalawigan will still not act, the people will put the matter into their hands," Enriquez said in a speech before the Quezon board.

Environment Secretary Michael Defensor has ordered a moratorium on all applications for environmental compliance certificate involving sand and gravel quarry operations in Quezon.

In a faxed statement to Tanggol Kalikasan-Southern Tagalog on Tuesday, Defensor said he received alarming reports that sand and gravel extraction had been proceeding with reckless abandon.

"In some areas, even mountains disappear..." Defensor said. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*



HOMEWARD BOUND

Passengers wait for rides to Legazpi City at a bus terminal in Pasay City to spend All Souls' Day in their hometowns.

RYAN LIM

300 workers say traders stole their machines

SAN PEDRO, Laguna—Over 300 displaced workers of an American firm that closed shop last year accused the owners of a construction company here of stealing machinery that they said have been awarded to them in lieu of their unpaid salaries.

The machines, worth about P100 million, were used for the production of hooks and eyes for brassieres.

Elpidio Cabrera, representative of former managers and supervisors of Stayfast Phils. Inc. (SPI), accused sisters Rhoda Filipiña-Baluyot and Rachel Filipiña of being behind the theft of the machines from the buildings that their company rented in Barangay Landayan on Oct. 8.

The buildings belong to the Filipiñas, who also own the Filipiña Construction Corp. (FCC), one of the biggest construction firms in Laguna.

But the sisters said the Cabrera group does not own the machines.

In a letter sent to the INQUIRER, the sisters said that as the owner of the rented buildings, FCC has the right to dispose of the properties left by SPI to offset the debt that the company owed them.

Cabrera said residents near their former factory saw several unidentified men using two 10-wheel trucks haul the equipment from the buildings without their consent.

Cabrera said their problems started when SPI, the world's biggest producer of hook-and-eye fasteners, stopped operations in July 2003 after supposedly suffering from huge losses.

Its owner, American businessman Joseph Santarlasci Jr., failed to pay the employees their benefits, including separation pay and back wages.

In its June 11 decision, the National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC) ordered the SPI to award the company's properties to Cabrera's group, composed of 98 former managers and supervisors and 224 rank-and-file workers, as payment for their wages and other benefits.

Documents from the NLRC showed that the company owed the workers some P70 million.

The Filipiña sisters said in their letter that since SPI closed shop in 2003, the management and officers of the company "very suddenly disappeared and abandoned the leased premises."

Since then SPI had failed to pay rent amounting to million of pesos, they said in the letter.

The letter said under the contract they had with SPI, "all properties and equipment left at the leased premises are answerable for SPI's obligations to [us]." *Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Cops raid Zambo City house, seize fake dollars, drugs

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Police authorities here on Friday evening seized close to P800,000 in suspected fake dollar bills and at least five large sachets of shabu from a father and son during a buy-bust operation.

The suspects, who were also arrested, were carrying identification cards supposedly issued by the Criminal Detection and Investigation Group.

Western Area Police commander Chief Supt. Vidal Querol said they were still trying to determine if the dollar bills, with a total amount of $13,500, were counterfeit or not.

He said the police were also verifying if the ID cards were authentic or fake.

Authenticity check

Querol said the police would be requesting the Central Bank and the US government to help them verify the authenticity of the seized money.

Senior Supt. Mario Yanga, city police chief, identified the suspects as Majid Sahiban, a former police officer, and his son Muhaimin.

Yanga said they have been monitoring the suspects for the past days and on Friday evening, police decided to launch a buy-bust operation.

He said around 6 p.m., members of the Zamboanga City Anti-Illegal Drug Special Operation Task Force barged into the Sahibans' house in Barangay Baliwasan Gusu. The Sahibans did not resist arrest.

Aside from the drugs and the suspected counterfeit dollars, Yanga said the team was able to recover a .45 cal. pistol with live ammunition.

Querol said the two would initially be charged with illegal possession of firearm and selling of prohibited drugs. *Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Reyes says better LGU governance GMA agenda

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—Local Government Secretary Angelo Reyes Thursday led local government officials from Regions 9, 10 and 13 in launching the Governance Exposition 2004 here.

The city was picked as one of the four sites for the program's launching.

The program, funded by the Local Government Support Program (LGSP), aims to provide an opportunity for local government units (LGUs) to showcase their exemplary and replicable practices, innovations, tools and technologies, according to Reyes.

The LGSP is one of the largest foreign-funded development programs in the country working directly with LGUs in support of the country's decentralization efforts.

It is a P1 billion, four-year project funded by the Canadian International Development Agency.

Reyes said the program compliments and advances President Macapagal-Arroyo's 10-point agenda.

"This is aimed at providing the local government level to build capabilities for governance...," Reyes said during the opening ceremonies of the program here.

At a press conference later, Reyes said under the program, LGUs would be able to determine their capabilities to deliver essential services. *Grace C. Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

REYES at a recent forum on corruption in the military.

ERIC ARAZAS

Cholera cases, deaths alarm health execs in Negros Occidental

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—Health officials in Negros Occidental have raised alarm over 11 cholera cases recorded at a government hospital here since September.

Even just one case of cholera could already be considered an "outbreak," according to Dr. Erberto Layda, head of the department of pathology of the Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital (CLMMRH) here.

"Anything communicable is alarming because it will jeopardize the health of the community," he said.

Layda said that in the last three years, the CLMMRH had no cholera cases, until September this year.

Out of 80 patients admitted at the CLMMRH for gastroenteritis over the last two months—21 in September and 59 in October—26 of them had stool examinations and 11 were found positive for vibrio cholerae, he said.

Of the 80 patients suffering from dehydration, 13 had died, and Dr. Benito Bionat, CLMMRH chief of clinics, said it was possible that some of them were suffering from cholera.

Most of the 80 patients are from Bacolod City.

Dr. Luisa Efren, provincial health officer, said that of the 11 confirmed cholera cases, nine were from Bacolod and one each from the cities of Victorias and Bago.

She said their investigation showed that the patient from Bago who acquired cholera had eaten contaminated food in Punta Taytay, Bacolod.

Dr. Jovy Vergara of the Bacolod City Health Office said CHO has been conducting sanitary inspections and epidemiological tests to determine the source of contamination in Bacolod City.

He said they were doing this to determine the sources of the contaminated water to stop the disease from spreading.

Symptoms of cholera are profuse vomiting and diarrhea, causing rapid dehydration that could lead to organ failure and death if not treated immediately, Layda said.

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INQUIRER Mindanao

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

War of the fruits in T'boli land

By Aquiles Z. Zonio
T'boli, South Cotabato

THE T'BOLI people are caught in a tug-of-war between two groups desperately wanting to exploit the natural bounty of their ancestral land in South Cotabato.

Two local cooperatives want to plant pineapple in the area, but another group, an outsider, prefers banana.

The natives are confused. Only a few of them have acquired formal schooling, and there are fears that the communities could be tricked or easily swayed to lease their land for a pittance.

Even those the tribespeople regard as leaders—experienced and educated—are divided. And they are in a quandary as to where to go for help.

Overlapping

Before planting pineapple in about 5,000 hectares of land, mostly owned by the natives, the Laconon Multi-Purpose Cooperative (LMPC) and the T'boli Multi-Fruit Growers Cooperative (TMFGC) went through the tedious process of acquiring an environmental compliance certificate (ECC).

The farmers' co-ops are beneficiaries of the government's land reform program. They have a combined membership of 443, most of them *lumad* (indigenous people).

They have been contracted to grow pineapple by Dole Philippines (Dolefil), which serves as their technical and marketing partner, under a project funded by loans from the Land Bank of the Philippines.

The pineapple project covers 13 of T'boli town's 25 barangays, and the co-ops intend to expand their plantation by about 5,000 more hectares in the next five years.

The project had barely started when Upland Banana Corp. (UBC), a subsidiary of the AMS Group of Companies, came in, looking for an area to develop into a banana plantation. UBC plans to pour in P45 million in investments to the 5,000-hectare site.

The idea drew strong opposition from the pineapple growers. In April, the co-ops passed a joint resolution asking then Environment Secretary Elisea Gozun to stop the entry of UBC, particularly in areas identified as sites for the pineapple project.

Pacifico Cordada, LMPC chair, said the areas would overlap with the co-ops' pineapple 'fields in eight barangays. He feared that chemicals used in the banana plantation, which would be adjacent to areas planted with pineapple, could contaminate the co-ops' produce, resulting in their outright rejection by buyers in the market.

Not environment-friendly

He claimed that the land canvassing, establishment of a nursery, and the lease contract executed by UBC officials without clearance from the Protected Area Management Board and an ECC were a clear mockery of the law.

The allegations were confirmed by a DENR team directed by Jim Sampulna, DENR director for Central Mindanao, which investigated the complaint aired by the co-ops against UBC in a memorandum dated May 13, 2004.

In its inspection report dated June 8, the team recommended that UBC first secure an ECC before starting any activity. It further noted that six of the eight barangays covered by the banana plantation were within the Allah Valley Protected Landscape.

UBC got the PAMB clearance only on July 27, long after it had started field operations.

Officials and members of the cooperatives fear that the banana plantation, aside from destroying their existing pineapple growing project, will result in pollution and other adverse ecological consequences, and displace residents in the affected areas.

"Who will pay for the damages to our project, including bank loans?" Cordada asked.

A banana plantation, one co-op official said, required a huge volume of water. Providing this need may dry up the water supply to lowlanders, especially farmers, in the towns of Surallah, Banga, Sto. Niño and Norala. These localities depend on the Gau River as source of potable water and irrigation.

Noel Venus, manager for ownership and land reform of the AMS Group of Companies, allayed the fears of the co-ops, saying no one would be displaced and that protecting the environment was their main concern.

Residents will be given preference in the hiring of workers, Venus said. The company, he added, would undertake mitigating measures to preserve and protect the environment.

The official said the banana growing project had the written approval of the tribal chieftains of the eight barangays.

Benefits for whom?

Adolfo Tanco Jr., a member of the board of directors of TMFGC, claimed that the majority, if not all, of the members of the cooperatives had already mortgaged their land to big traders in the town.

Tanco, himself a T'boli, said that to emancipate his fellow *lumad* from the clutches of these traders, the co-ops launched the so-called Land Redemption Program.

Land mortgaged by the natives to the traders would be redeemed by the co-ops under the program. The co-ops and the landowners would then enter into a lease agreement allowing the redeemed land to be converted into a pineapple plantation.

The landowners are also given priority in hiring workers for the project. "Aside from having the chance of getting back their land, the natives are provided employment while earning from rentals paid by the co-ops," Tanco said.

The co-ops are paying P25,000 per hectare of land per cycle (3.5 years) to the landowners as rental. On the other hand, the UBC rental rate is P10,000 per hectare per year, over a period of 25 years.

Tanco said the UBC rental scheme was not only unjust but would also displace the *lumad* from their ancestral lands.

Coerced

Cordada claimed that about 30 natives who were parties to the lease contract with UBC had already decided to back out.

An owner of a 3.5-hectare piece of property said that when he decided to renounce the contract he had signed, the company threatened to file a case against him. "I am 33 years old. By the time I get hold of my land [under the UBC contract], I would already be 58," Mario Kingil said in Ilonggo.

Manuel Dualan, 35, who owns a 2.5-hectare lot, said he also signed a lease contract with UBC. He said he realized that he would be receiving only a morsel from UBC after visiting Lapanday Global Fruits in Tampakan town in South Cotabato.

The landowners in Tampakan receive P30,000 per hectare as yearly rental. The contract, for which they got P10,000 as a signing bonus, will last for just six years.

Dualan said they were not aware that the contract with UBC would expire only after 25 long years. No representative from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples was present during the contract signing, he added.

After he decided to back out, Dualan said UBC refused to take back the P6,000 advanced rental he had received.

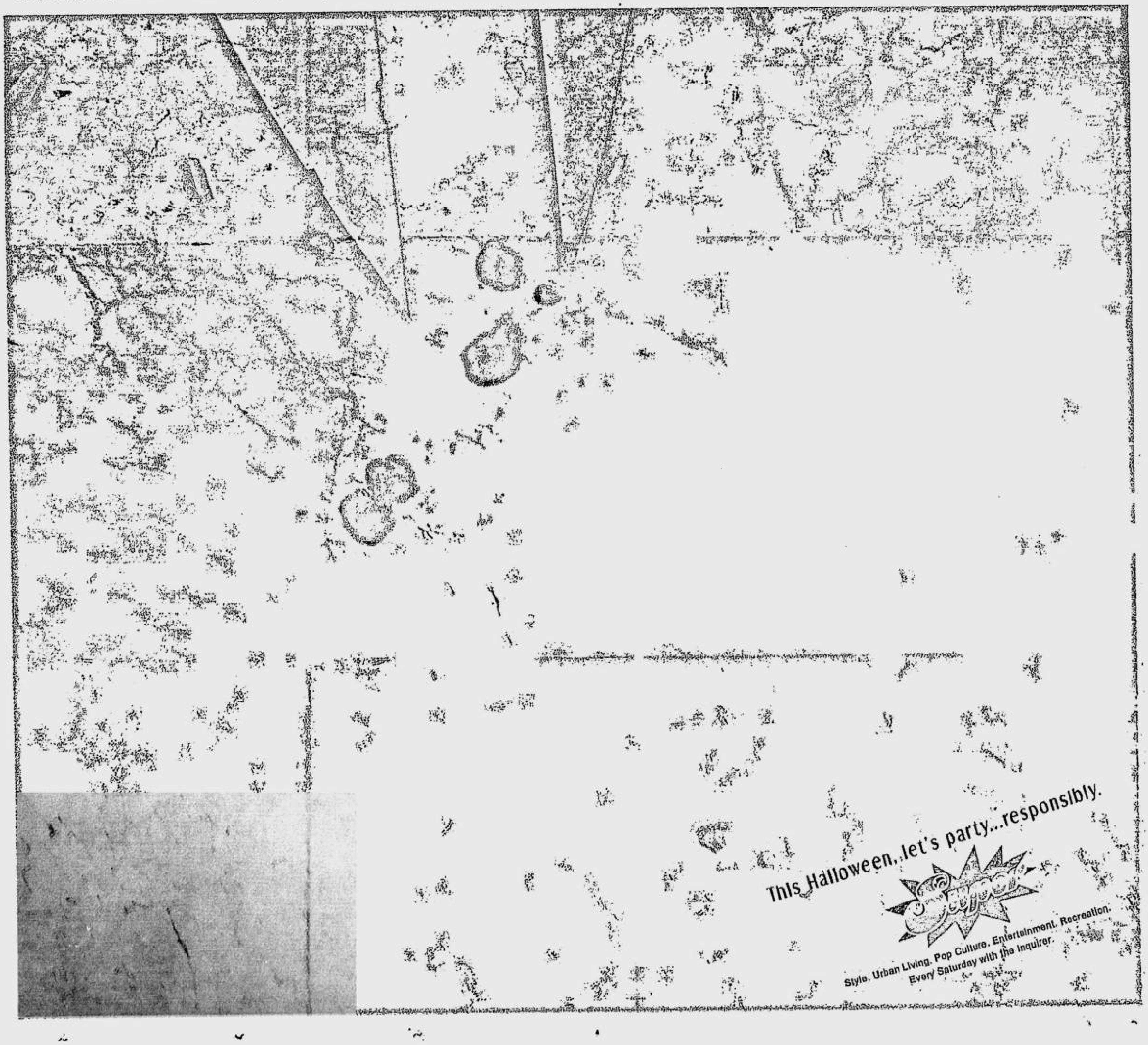
The company, he said, filed a complaint before the barangay court against him, but he added that he was not even aware of its nature.

He is unfazed. "I am willing to go to jail if [that's what] they want, but I stand by my principles."

Dualan said he was just as dismayed when a tribal leader came to convince him not to withdraw from UBC. The tribal leader, who is also a village chieftain in Dualan's area, reportedly serves as a land canvasser for UBC and receives P1,000 per hectare as commission.

THE ENTRY of big capitalists in their homeland had put the T'boli people in a quandary over pineapples and bananas.

AQUILES ZONIO/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU



This Halloween, let's party...responsibly.
Style. Urban Living. Pop Culture. Entertainment. Recreation.
Every Saturday with the Inquirer.

Bin Laden warns US

From page A1

US television news channels broke into their programs to show the al-Qaida leader's ominous message to the American people.

Drop-off at TV station

Al-Jazeera said Saturday that it received the Bin Laden message at its offices in the Pakistani capital of Islamabad.

The tape was dropped off at the gate of the station's office in an envelope on Friday, just hours before it aired, said Ahmad Muaffaq Zaidan, Al-Jazeera's bureau chief in Pakistan.

"We received it in Pakistan ... Somebody dropped it yesterday at the gate," Zaidan said. "The guard brought it to me along with other mail. It was in an envelope, I opened it and it was a big scoop."

Zaidan said he immediately transmitted the tape to Al-Jazeera's headquarters in the Gulf nation of Qatar.

Bin Laden and his top deputy, Egyptian surgeon Ayman al-Zawahri, are both believed to be hiding in the mountains that straddle the Afghan-Pakistan border, although there has been no hard evidence of their whereabouts for more than three years.

Zaidan said the fact the tape was received by the station in Pakistan did not necessarily mean that Bin Laden and al-Zawahri were in the area.

Bush sharpened his attacks on rival Kerry after vowing that Bin Laden's latest threats would not sway the US election.

'Shameful'

Not quite two hours after reaching out to Kerry in his first public remarks on the message, Bush said the Democrat's charge that bad strategy let Bin Laden escape US forces in late 2001 was "especially shameful."

"Unfortunately my opponent tonight continued to say things he knows are not true, accusing our military of passing up a chance to get Osama bin Laden at Tora Bora," an Afghan stronghold, in 2001, the Republican president told cheering supporters in Ohio.

"As the commander in charge of that operation, (retired general) Tommy Franks has said: It's simply not the case," Bush said. "It is especially shameful in the light of a new tape from America's enemy."

Kerry appeared uncertain about how to respond to Bin Laden's bombshell appearance after his initial comments sparked a firestorm within the Bush campaign.

In a television interview that marked the first response to the tape from either candidate, Kerry vowed to hunt down and kill terrorists, and said America was united in that desire.

Then, repeating a motif from his stump speeches, he said: "I regret that when George Bush had the opportunity in Afghanistan at Tora Bora, he didn't use our forces to hunt down and kill Osama bin Laden. He outsourced to the war lords."

Inappropriate

Bush aides argued that the line was inappropriate in light of the Bin Laden tape.

Speaking to reporters in Ohio, White House communications director Dan Bartlett said Kerry should have frozen his criticisms for 12 hours.

"You would think that there would be a, maybe, 12 hours to let the Americans absorb what has just happened today," he said.

Prodded on why Kerry should have stopped criticizing the president, Bartlett revised his statement, saying that the problem was that Kerry's attack had been "discredited."

Kerry appeared to heed the call, steering well clear of the accusation in his next rally, in Miami, vowing only to make America safer than Bush had, after delivering a terse statement in front of his campaign jet on the tarmac of a Florida airport.

"In response to this tape of Osama bin Laden, let me just make it clear, crystal clear: as Americans we are united in our determination to hunt down and destroy Osama bin Laden and the terrorists," Kerry said.

"They are barbarians. I will stop at absolutely nothing to hunt down, capture or kill the terrorists wherever they are, whatever it takes," he said.

Arnold in Ohio

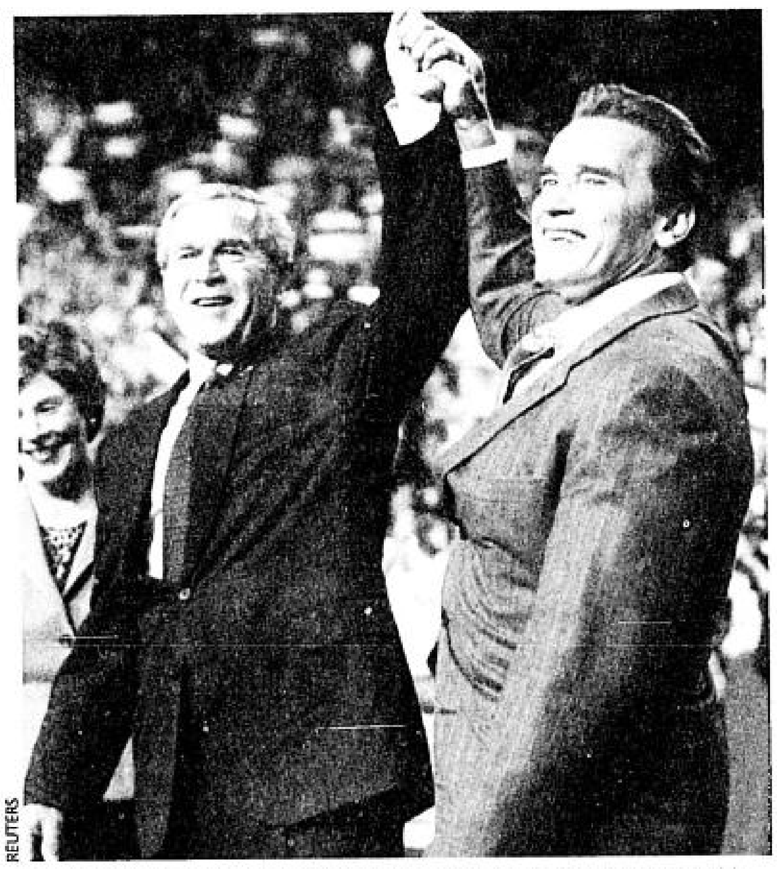
Bush on Friday enlisted Hollywood action star turned California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to stump for him in Ohio, a critical up-for-grabs state, where the candidates are neck-and-neck.

"Now is the time to flex your muscles for bold leadership, for a strong economy," the former bodybuilding superstar said. "If you flex your muscles November 2nd, I guarantee you: President Bush will be back."

Earlier, Bush had insisted that the tape—in which Bin Laden mocked the president who once vowed to catch him "dead or alive—would not affect the election.

"Let me make this very clear. Americans will not be intimidated or influenced by an enemy of our country," Bush said in a hastily arranged statement on an airport tarmac in Toledo, Ohio.

"I'm sure Senator Kerry agrees with this," he added. "I also want to say to the American people that we are at war with these terrorists, and I am confident that we will prevail." AFP, New York Time News Service, AP



REUTERS

THE TERMINATOR campaigns for Bush in up-for-grabs state of Ohio.

NO NEED to wear masks for Pacquiao and Assunta, who are all dressed up to haunt and delight the many visitors to the Malabon Zoo on Halloween, shown here with their keeper Manny Tangco. EDWIN BACASMAS

Lawmaker wants to hike taxes ...

From page A1

20 percent excise tax on luxurious goods and services ranging from perfumes and yachts to cosmetic and body enhancement procedures.

"Given the current fiscal crisis, the government needs a more creative way of increasing its tax base which will not be detrimental to the needy sectors of society," Mitra said in House Bill No. 2831.

HB 2831 targets perfumes, yachts and "other vessels intended for pleasure and sports."

It includes "other goods with any of the following qualities: antique, rare, handmade by artisans, made of expensive metals or of exquisite design, custom-made or with exceptional features, and created by well-known persons/company."

The bill covers cosmetic and body enhancement procedures like liposuction, breast enlargement, hair removal and the like.

Anticipating howls of protest from people who may want a nip-tuck, or perhaps a booty like J. Lo's, Mitra argued that taxing these goods and services would "enhance the progressivity of the tax system because the tax burden is borne by those who are able to pay."

Non-essentials

He said imposing taxes on non-essential goods and services was not limited to the Philippines.

"All over the world today, the tax base is being redefined, broadened and enlarged to capture the ever-changing behavior and lifestyle of people in businesses and government," Mitra said.

He noted that cosmetic enhancement services tax, latte tax (a levy on designer coffee drinks), political posters or billboards tax were "already being considered globally."

The Mitra bill seeks to empower the Department of Finance to come up with a complete listing of non-essential goods and services subject to excise tax.

"The list shall be reviewed and revised annually," he said.

On non-essential goods, the bill provides for a 20 percent tax on the wholesale price or value of importation.

Non-essential services will be levied a tax equivalent to 20 percent of gross receipts.

Exemptions

In a statement, Mitra clarified that the bill would exempt certain cosmetic procedures needed to "remedy disfigurement caused by accidents like fire, vehicular mishaps or violent acts such as lacerations."

Also exempted are procedures for life-threatening cases like the removal of cancerous warts.

"(Surgery for) harelips are not covered (by the tax) but hair transplants are, even if a person insisted that he would die of shame for being bald," Mitra said.

Living inside a cemetery...

From page A1

"We repair about everything here. I hire my own personnel, do my purchasing worldwide for importation of raw materials," he said.

Neese makes daily rounds to ensure that the graves and the memorials are well-tended and the surroundings spic and span. Some of the problems include installing a water supply system for the plants, termites attacking the trees, urban air pollution which causes markers to deteriorate, and putting out the occasional grass fire.

About the worst problem that he has had to deal with are the typhoons. The strong winds would often break tree branches, if not topple the trees entirely, and damage some grave markers.

Busiest job

But having dealt successfully with such problems, he can afford to joke about his job: "Doing nothing is the busiest job in the world."

He gave a shudder and knocked on wood when asked if there had been instances of vandalism. Recently, Muslim militants vandalized the graves of British soldiers from World War II in Gaza, Palestine.

Neese and his staff also arrange ceremonies for visiting US civilian and military dignitaries during Veterans Day and Memorial Day, set visiting schedules for tourists and relatives of those buried there, and answer letters and e-mailed inquiries from around the world.

For friends and relatives of the dead, the staff provides free services such as locating the plots, giving travel information and finding nearby accommodations.

They also offer photographs of headstones and engravings, and arrange for floral decorations to be placed on the graves and memorial sites.

Neese said not many families have had the chance to visit their dead who are buried here because of distance and the high cost of travelling from the US.

The missing

The cemetery also memorializes 36,282 missing whose names are inscribed in the large memorial located at the center of the cemetery, as well as those "who sleep in unknown graves."

Neese played host recently to a group of forensic scientists from Hawaii who are trying to identify the more than 3,700 "unknown soldiers" who are buried in the cemetery. The group has so far identified four.

How he got the job

The superintendent recalled how he wanted to be a park ranger when he was a boy. After his Army discharge, he worked for a private firm. In 1989, he stumbled on an ad of the American Battle Monuments Commission, the US federal agency in charge of constructing and maintaining memorial shrines and military monuments and markers in foreign countries.

"It piqued my curiosity, especially its mission, taking care of America's war dead overseas," he said.

Assignments

His first assignment was at the small US military cemetery in the village of Hamm, in Luxembourg, which had 8,000 graves. He later served as caretaker in American cemeteries in Normandy in France, Belgium and the Netherlands. He was posted to the Philippines in May 2002.

Neese is also in charge of WWII battle monuments in Saipan, Northern Marianas; Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea; Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, and Cabanatuan City in Nueva Ecija, Philippines.

The Nueva Ecija monument features a "wall of honor" memorializing the site of a prisoner-of-war camp where 3,000 US soldiers died while in captivity.

Biggest number of US soldiers

The Manila cemetery is only the second largest in area of the cemeteries memorializing the service of US soldiers overseas. But it has the biggest number of soldiers interred and memorialized.

The cemetery lies on a prominent plateau, visible from a distance. The gently rising ground, covered with tropical trees and shrubbery, culminates in the central memorial.

Most of the buried and memorialized soldiers lost their lives in the epic defense of the Philippines and the Far East in 1941 and 1942 and in the victorious return of the US forces through the vast Pacific island chain.

The Philippine government authorized the establishment of the memorial in April 1948 in the former US military reservation known as Fort William McKinley. Designed by Gardner A. Dailey, it was completed in 1960.

Neese said his mission is to ensure that the cemetery maintains and meets the highest standards as a living memorial to fallen soldiers overseas whose families had entrusted the care of their loved ones to its caretakers.

'They deserve no less'

"It's keeping the memory of the valor and sacrifice that was paid by these men and women. That's why our standards are so high. Not because the public deserves to see a nice place but these soldiers who are interred here deserve nothing but the best," he said.

He said he often gets asked by visitors, particularly young people, if there are ghost stories that he could share.

"I've never experienced anything paranormal. I always say you never have to fear the dead. It's always the living you have to fear," he said.

Tourist destination

The American cemetery is listed in the tourism department's list of main attractions in Makati. Neese said 84,000 people visited the cemetery last year, mostly from Japan, China and other Asian countries.

"We do get lots of Filipinos. But it's not No. 1 on their list [of tourist spots] to visit a cemetery. I think it has something to do with the culture," he said, while also noting that Filipinos customarily troop to the cemeteries on All Saints Day to pay their respects to the dead.

The cemetery is open daily to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week and no special passes are required.

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LRT fare hike a must, says DOTC

By Clarissa S. Batino

METRO Manila's railway systems need a P10-fare hike badly, according to Secretary Leandro Mendoza of the Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC).

He said the DOTC had endorsed the fare hike to the finance and budget departments.

These two departments must agree to the proposal before the National Economic and Development Authority, headed by President Macapagal-Arroyo, could approve the fare increase.

If it is any consolation, the Metro Rail Transit Line 3 (MRT-3) cut the proposed minimum fare to P16 from P17. Its current minimum fare stands at P9.50.

But the proposed fare hike from North Edsa to Baclaran remains at P10, which will raise the current fare from P15 to P25.

MRT-3 general manager Roberto Lastimoso said the government had hoped to implement the fare hike in August. The proposed increase in the fares of the MRT-3 as well as the Light Rail Transit (LRT) Lines 1 and 2 have been pending since March.

LRT-2 opened its Recto station for operations last Friday. The opening of the 11th station from Pasig should increase the passenger count daily to about 120,000 from the current volume of about 100,000.

The LRT-2 fare ranges from P12 to P15 while LRT-1 collects a flat rate of P15.

Mendoza said the government was also balancing the need to raise revenue to sustain the operations of the railway with the capacity of commuters to absorb the fare increase.

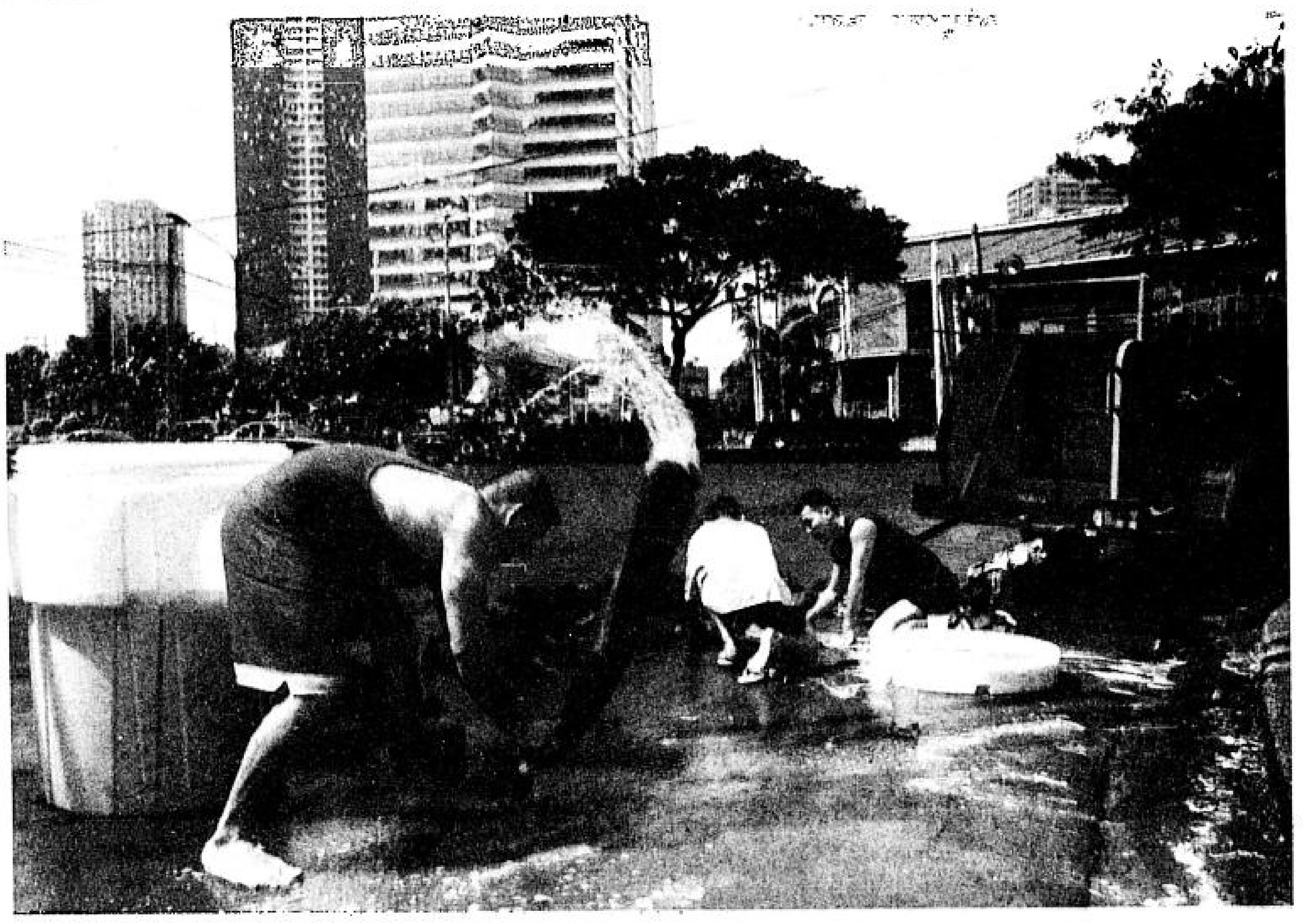
Close to 800,000 commuters ride the MRT-3, LRT-1 and LRT-2 everyday.

"We have to consider the economics *kasi kawawa din ang mga tao* (because people will have a hard time). But it would be very difficult to sustain the operations of the railway without the fare increase," said Mendoza.

The train authorities cited the increased costs of maintenance, particularly of the electricity that runs the train systems. Power accounts for about 30 percent of the railway system's operation expenses.

Income from operating the railway, according to government sources, is not enough to cover the costs of maintenance.

Lastimoso said the government had no other means of collecting additional income as a private consortium collected the earnings from advertisements within the MRT-3 premises.



LABA-LABA-DOO! ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Firemen wash their uniforms and equipment on the street across the Makati City Central Fire Station early Saturday with water from a fire hydrant.

Watchmen in Blanca case: Who is hiding?

By Cenon B. Bibe Jr.

NONE of the security guards in the murder case of actress Nida Blanca are in hiding.

"We have always been ready to cooperate in the investigation," lawyer Eldorado Lim, owner of the Northern Isabela Security Agency (NISA), said yesterday.

Lim called up the INQUIRER to belie reports that his three men—Roberto Cañete, Ricky (not Ricardo as earlier reported) Alvarez and Diolito Molines—were avoiding a new probe.

"No one called up the agency or asked about the guards before news that they had gone missing came out," Lim said, adding that he and the three watchmen had given their full cooperation from the start.

In fact, he added, had anyone called their office, he could have readily presented Alvarez, who still works for the agency.

Lim said Cañete and Molines did not renew their licenses as security guards, so they were no longer with NISA.

Cañete, he disclosed, was already working as a collector for Timbang Gravel and Sand in Tandang Sora, Quezon City.

According to Lim, Cañete has called him and expressed readiness to face a new probe.

Lim said he was not aware of the whereabouts of Molines but the security agency was already trying to locate him.

At the same time, Lim denounced reports linking his wife, Zenaida, a state prosecutor, to the operations of NISA.

"She is not connected with the security agency. I own and operate it," he said.

3 more fires hit Metro

TWO WOMEN were injured in one of three fires that hit three cities of the metropolis yesterday.

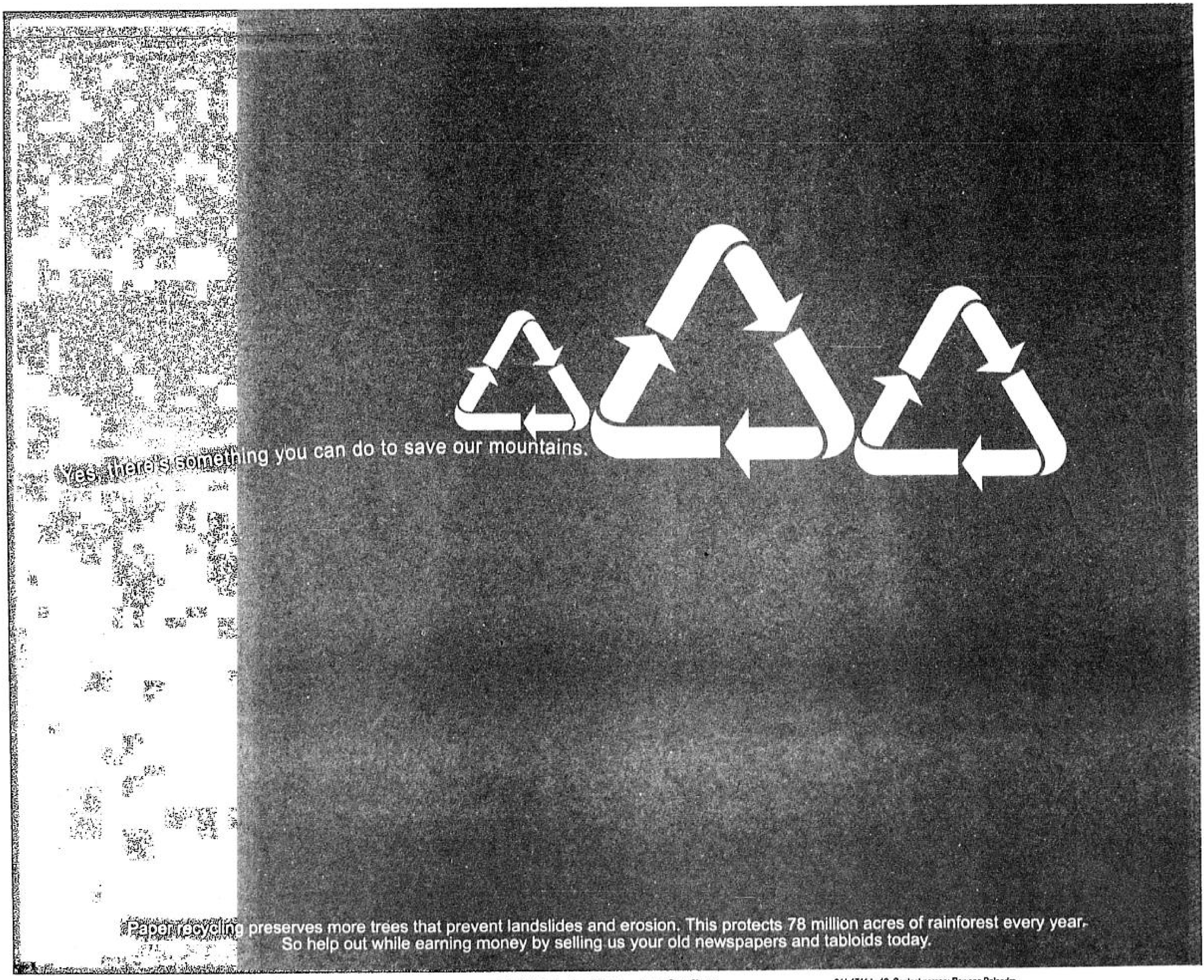
Malabon arson investigators identified the victims as Flordelyn Aquino, 45, and Editha Baldoza, 40, owner of a two-story house that burned down on Crispin Street, Barangay Tinajeros.

Some 50 families were rendered homeless in the three-hour blaze that started at 3 a.m.

In Parañaque, an overheated electric fan caused an hour-long fire at the Neighborhood Association Compound on Switzerland Street. Damage was placed at P200,000.

Earlier, on Friday evening, the MOD auto parts store at the corner of Gil Puyat and Tramo Street in Pasay City went up in flames and resulted in damages estimated at P500,000.

The causes of the fires in Malabon and Pasay were still being determined as of press time. *Tina G. Santos and Nancy C. Carvajal*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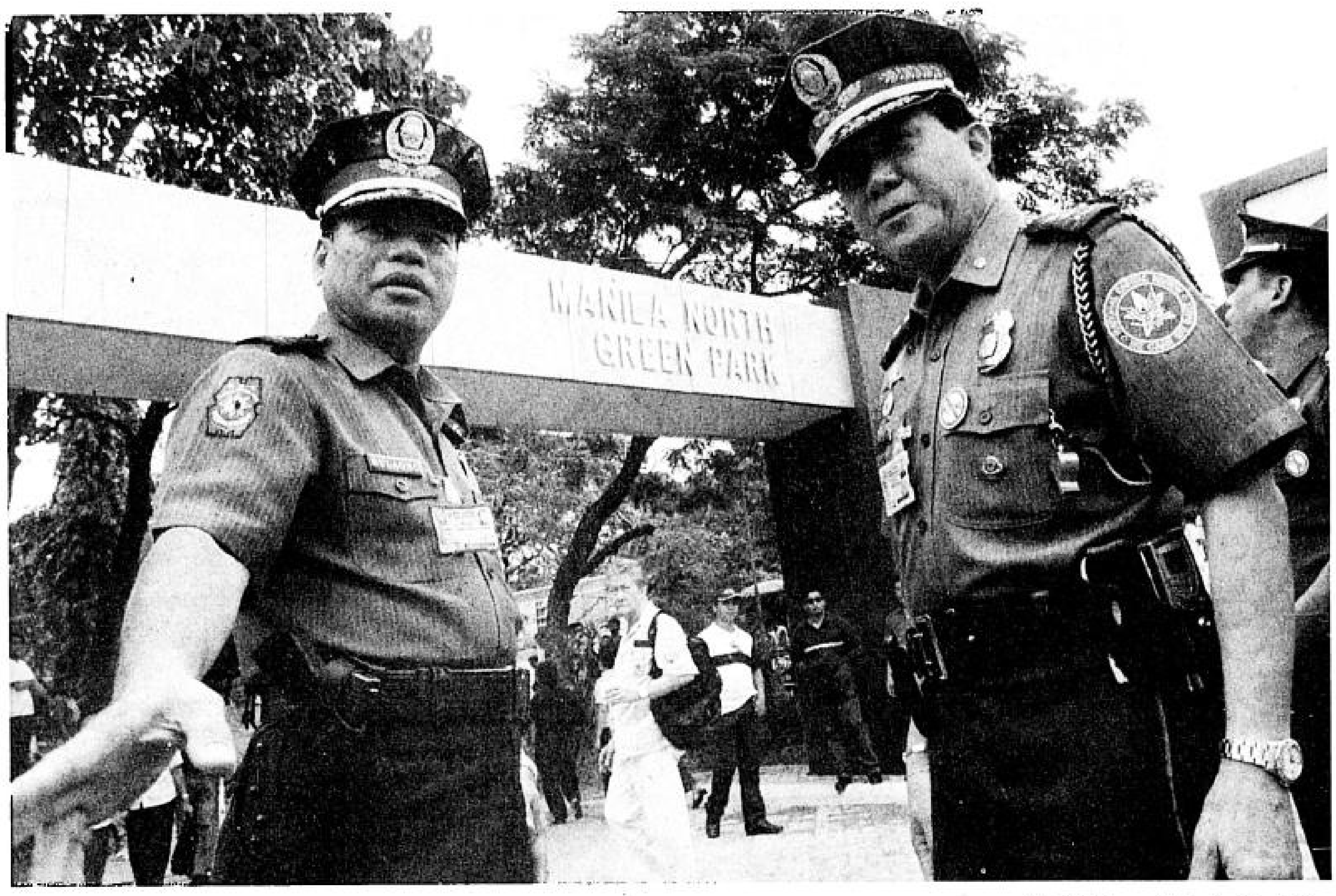
Editor Ester G. Dipasupil ■ *Assistant Editor* Cenon B. Bibe

'CONDOS' FOR THE DEPARTED

The dead get better accommodations

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr. and Tarra V. Quismundo



GETTING ready for the flood of people wishing to remember their dearly departed, Western Police District Chief Supt. Pedro Bulaong and National Capital Region Police Office Director Avelino Razon Jr. (above) oversee security at the entrance of the Manila North Green Park. At left, Mayor Lito Atienza and his son, Councilor Kim Atienza, tour clusters of niches and vaults in a soon-to-be-opened section of the North Cemetery. ERIK ARAZAS

UNLIKE most people who will have to brave heavy traffic and elbow their way into crowded cemeteries, businesswoman Cristy Samson, 40, and her family will probably just stay home tomorrow.

Her father died five years ago. His body was cremated after the wake and the ashes were placed in an urn.

In 2002, she bought a vault for her father's remains at a columbarium in Quezon City. A few days ago, she had the vault opened so she could take her father's remains and bring them home.

She plans to return the urn after All Saints' Day.

Talk about evolving burial practices.

Boxes, vaults and niches

Instead of tombs, a columbarium has small boxes built on stone walls. These boxes, called vaults or niches, contain urns filled with a person's cremated remains.

Although the practice began hundreds of years ago in Europe, it is only now that Filipinos are burying their dead in columbaria.

The apprehension could be partly due to religion.

The Catholic Church had prohibited cremation until 1983.

Now, religious orders in the country are the pioneers in building columbaria, particularly in Metro Manila.

The Augustinian Fathers and a private developer now have The Columbary in Quezon City, which houses 35,000 vaults. The project is almost 75 percent complete.

Vincentians, too

The Vincentian Fathers have also started the construction of the Santuario de San Vicente de Paul Shrine and Columbarium, also in Quezon City. It will have 9,000 niches.

Amid the fiscal crisis, developers present the columbarium as a practical alternative to traditional burial.

Or is it?

Urns used for keeping the ashes of those cremated cost P10,000 to P100,000.

At the same time, the price of a vault ranges from 25,000 to 90,000, depending on the location.

On the other hand, a vacant lot in a memorial garden and the construction of a tomb or a mausoleum will cost more than P100,000.

No fees, no renewals

There will be no monthly fees for maintenance, nor will there be a need to renew the contract, The Columbary manager Liz Reyes said.

In public cemeteries, contracts last for only five years.

Reyes' company even offers vaults on an installment basis, ranging from P800 to P2,500 monthly, payable in three years.

According to her, this should disprove the idea that cremation and columbaria are only for rich families.

Aside from lower costs, maintaining vaults for relatives who have passed away is also more convenient, Samson said.

Unlike in cemeteries, columbaria usually have 24-hour security guards and custodians.

The vaults can also be opened from time to time, so family members can bring home their dearly departed's remains on special occasions.

And. because columbaria are usually constructed under churches or chapels, the dead are literally brought back to the house of their Creator, Santuario de San Vicente de Paul Shrine and Columbarium project director Fr. Atilano Fajardo said.

The use of the columbarium is not new in the country. Some priests during the Spanish times were cremated and their ashes kept under churches.

However, it was only recently that this practice was "commercialized," Fajardo said.

"I think in the next 10 years, (the columbarium) will be acceptable to (Filipinos)," he added.

More acceptance

There is also a growing number of Filipinos who prefer cremation to a traditional burial, developers of The Columbary said in a study brief.

The developers said that in the next six years, 20 percent of Metro Manila residents will favor cremation.

But University of the Philippines anthropology department head Michael Tan believes the process of acceptance will be slow.

"There will be a lot of resistance," he said.

Tan said residents in congested cities might be open to cremation, but those in rural areas would cling to their traditional practices.

The belief in the resurrection of the body, as taught by the Church, will also make it difficult for some Filipinos to let the bodies of their loved ones be reduced to ashes.

Turning to the columbarium would also displace the culture of going to the cemeteries on All Saints' Day, a tradition many Filipinos may not be ready to abandon.

For those who may choose to retain the annual practice of visiting cemeteries, the city of Manila will soon be offering similar "accommodations" for the dead at the North Cemetery.

"Condominium-type" buildings for the departed are under construction on 4.6 hectares of the cemetery, a project that would take the commonly known "apartment" crypts to a higher level.

The Manila North Green Park is in the works inside the city-owned cemetery on the corner of Blumentritt and Andres Bonifacio Street in Sta. Cruz.

It will be a sprawling 130-building complex of multi-level crypts that may house ashes, skeletal remains or coffins.

Joint venture

A joint venture between the city government and private developer CHC Development Consortium, Inc., the project will be completed in five years during which 14 building clusters on 2.8 hectares will be built.

"The private sector would take care of the development and maintenance of the surroundings, in exchange for letting them use public land," said Mayor Lito Atienza.

The new burial facility shares the main entrance of the 54-hectare North Cemetery, whose gates were recently replaced to match the theme of the new multi-level memorial park.

The buildings would house 47,000 coffin crypts and 22,000 bone crypts—smaller ones that can hold up to four skeletons or ash urns.

Two clusters of three-story buildings, each level having five layers of crypts, will be built. The rest would rise to two stories, with a total of 10 crypt layers.

A main road would be carved around the building clusters and their parking lots. Walkways would be installed on each level of the crypt buildings, where families may offer candles and flowers to their departed loved ones.

On-site project manager Patrick Corpus said that the plan also covers sanitary concerns, as an underground sealed vault would be constructed to collect "cadaver juices" using a drainage path through the multi-level crypts.

How about the living?

The project began as families of the cemetery's thousands of caretakers faced the imminent loss of their homes. The buildings would occupy the present site of their houses.

"What would happen to the workers? They have nowhere else to go, and they have been living there for a long time," said Chat Dimaano, spokesperson of Kalipunan ng Migranteng Pilipino at Pamilya (KMPP), which learned about the situation through some of their members who lived in the cemetery.

Dimaano said that while the families living there were indeed informal dwellers, they have considered the cemetery their homes for generations.

The militant group counted some 5,000 cemetery cleaners, informal cemetery workers and their families living in a portion of the public cemetery.

Relocation planned

"They were informed of the plan and given advance notice. But I don't think that would be a problem," said Corpus, confident that City Hall would take care of the informal dwellers.

Asked what would happen to the families that would eventually have to give way to the construction of multi-level crypts, Atienza said their relocation was being planned.

CHC began construction following a Memorandum of Agreement with City Hall, which allows them to undertake the project under a build-operate-transfer scheme.

The private firm aims to finish construction within three to five years, as they would have to turn over the facility to City Hall in between five to seven years.

"We are hoping to open crypts for interment by December or January," Corpus said.

Based on CHC's marketing leaflet, coffin crypts would be sold for P17,581.73 while bone crypts are priced at P12,765. Payments may be made in cash or on an installment basis.

Once the crypts are sold out, the 47,000 coffin crypts stand to yield P826 million, while the 22,000 bone crypts may rake in an income of P280 million.

Islamic prayer room withstands opposition

By Luige A. del Puerto

CONSTRUCTION of the Islamic prayer room on the ground floor of a parking building at the Greenhills Shopping Center continues unabated despite continuing opposition from homeowners' associations in surrounding areas.

Muslim traders at the shopping center eagerly await the opening of their prayer room, or *musallah*, tentatively set for Nov. 10.

"Our information is that the prayer room will be opened on Nov. 10. If not, then before Nov. 14, the last day of the Ramadan," Rex Dimacuta, secretary-general of the Greenhills Muslim Traders Association, said over the phone.

Muslims celebrate the last day of the Ramadan, called Eidl Adha, with a feast, and Ortigas and Co. intends that the celebration take place at the Muslims' new, air-conditioned prayer room, Dimacuta said.

"The Creator has allowed the construction to be finished soon, and we could only thank Him," Dimacuta added.

He said Ortigas and Co. had repeatedly assured Muslim traders that the construction of the prayer room would go on unhampered.

So far, people could see for themselves that work on the parking area, where the *musallah* is to be housed, continues, he said.

Nonetheless, opposition to the establishment of the prayer room has not died down.

The North Greenhills Association circulated a newsletter this week reiterating that the "main issue" in the controversy is peace and order—not religion.

The association is aggressively lobbying against the prayer room, arguing that wherever mosques are built, the area quickly deteriorates in terms of land value and security.

Yet on Tuesday night, some Greenhills residents virtually rebuked their association's inflexible stand on the issue.

At least 30 residents met in an "extraordinary meeting" to discuss and vote on four resolutions, according to Francisco Joaquin, former chair and president of the association.

While the residents did not meet to put forward a categorical statement of support for the prayer room, those who favor it have scored big psychologically.

On the surface, the move showed that residents are deeply divided on the issue, and a number have reservations about the association's stand on the controversy.

Joaquin supports the establishment of the prayer room and calls the association's stand as an act of "bigotry" and "religious intolerance."

The first three resolutions are summarized as follows:

- The Board of Directors may not represent members in matters of religious belief, including the Islamic prayer room controversy.
- The association may not use its funds in the filing of any case decided by the Board on a religious issue.
- An officer or member may speak on a religious issue only in his or her personal capacity, and not on behalf of residents.

Manila docs to give free hernia operations

By Leila B. Salaverria

AMID the rising prices of gasoline and other basic goods, some things still come free—even if only for a while.

The Ospital ng Maynila's Department of Surgery has announced that it will be operating on children with hernia for free in November.

Hernia, known locally as *luslos*, is a condition wherein part of the intestine bulges through a weak area of muscles in the abdomen.

The condition usually affects the groin area in males who experience a lump near their genitals.

Dr. Red Roque, a senior resident at the Department of Surgery, said "Operation Luslos Ubos" aims to provide free and efficient medical service to patients.

"The project intends to deliver quality surgical care to indigent patients," he said in a statement sent to the INQUIRER.

The operation will be done in cooperation with the Give a Life Foundation.

Roque said that so far, six hernia patients are scheduled to avail of free surgery.

Those who wish to inquire about the project may contact Dr. Roque through the Ospital ng Maynila's Department of Surgery at 524-6061 loc. 103 or 300.

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Compiled by L. Mangulat

BASKETBALL: NBA Greatest Games-Pacers vs Sixers, Game 1, 2001 Eastern First Round; 8 a.m. (r-8:30 p.m.); Kings vs Lakers, Game 6, 2002 Western Finals; 11 a.m.: Solar Sports—Relive these two classic playoff encounters.

BOXING: Wladimir Klitschko vs Darryl Williamson; 2 p.m. (r); Solar Sports—Take another look at this heavyweight slugfest.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

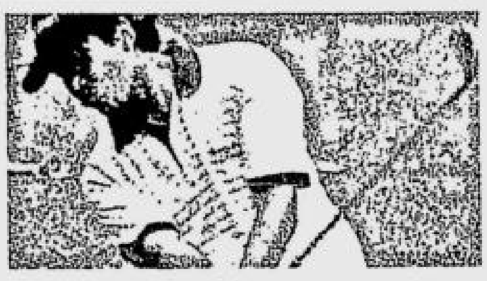
WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Villanueva relishes starting center role /A26

■ RP topples Hungary, lands 12th /A26

■ Agassi marches to final 4 /A28

■ Juvic shoots 70, but RP slips in World Amateur /A31



Air Phil 5 triumphs, shares top

By Jasmine W. Payo

JEROME Paterno took on the hero's role one more time.

Paterno, who shot the winning basket in Air Philippines' opening game victory, nailed another clutch jumper in the last 9.9 seconds as the Flight slipped past Granny Goose Tortillos, 78-76, to grab a share of the lead in the PBL Open Championship yesterday at the La Salle Greenhills Gym.

"It was all heart and a lot of luck. Paterno is really a big time player," said coach Lawrence Chongson after the Flight joined defending champion Magnolia-FEU in the top spot at 2-0.

Paolo Hubalde paced Air Philippines with 15 points.

In the second game, ICTSI-La Salle surprisingly had an easy time scoring its first win by blasting rival Addict Mobile-Ateneo, 81-57. Mac Cardona had a game-high 28 points, while Joseph Yeo added 20.

The Archers settled for a 1-1 card along with idle Toyota Otis-Letran and Montaña. Pre-season favorite Ateneo, together with last conference's finalist Welcoat, remain winless in two outings.

Air Philippines controlled the tempo for a 41-30 cushion at the interval. But Granny Goose's persistent rallies narrowed the margin to two, 76-74, less than two minutes remaining.

An undergoal stab from Tortillos' Alfie Grijaldo tied the contest, 76-76, at 31.5 seconds. But Paterno, who confidently positioned himself at the right flank, responded with the winning basket.

Cardona and Yeo teamed up early on to put ICTSI-La Salle ahead by 17 points, 53-36, in the third quarter. Junjun Cabatu continued the surge in the final canto, and another Cardona drive pushed the Archers ahead by 23 points, 69-46.

GAMES TUESDAY
(Pasig Sports Center)
2 p.m.—Addict Mobile-Ateneo vs Granny Goose
4 p.m.—Magnolia-FEU vs Welcoat

The scores:

First game

AIR PHILIPPINES 78—Hubalde 15, Aljamal 11, Holper 11, Pua 10, Te 9, Paterno 6, Alonzo 5, Vizcarra 5, Garrido 2, Tolentino 2, Joe 2, Epondulan 0

GRANNY GOOSE 76—Almeda 11, Grijaldo 11, Larong 11, Lanete 11, Capati 8, Quiñahan 5, Cruz 5, Santos 4, Cervantes 4, Concha 3, Latonio 3, Ibañes 0, David 0, Mangubat 0

Quarters: 19-8, 41-30, 59-52, 78-76.

Second game

ICTSI-LA SALLE 81—Cardona 28, Yeo 20, Tang 12, Cabatu 10, Casio 7, Gaco 5, Benitez 3, Walsham 2, Araña 2, Tang 2, Cua 2, Gatchalian 0, Aquino 0

ADDICT MOBILE-ATENEO 57—Johnson 17, Mendoza 10, Oreta 9, Tenorio 6, Espinas 5, Sanz 4, Bugia 3, Mesina 2, Alfad 1, Intal 0, Membrere 0

Quarters: 15-11, 38-26, 58-44, 81-57.

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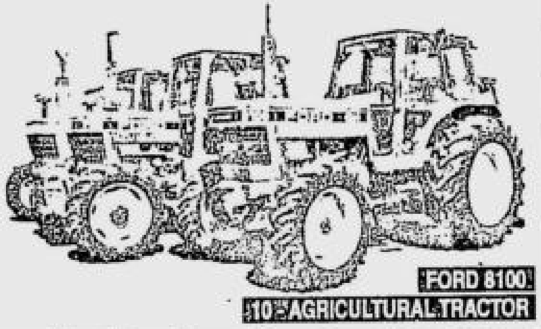
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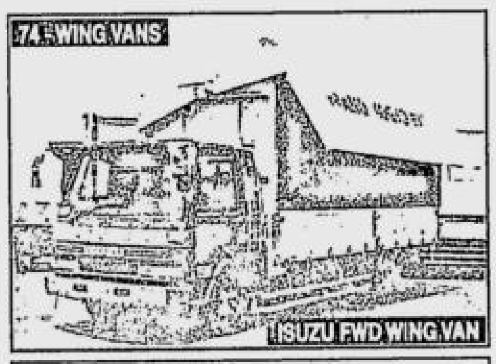
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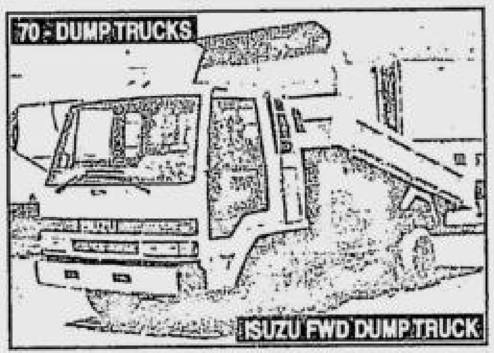
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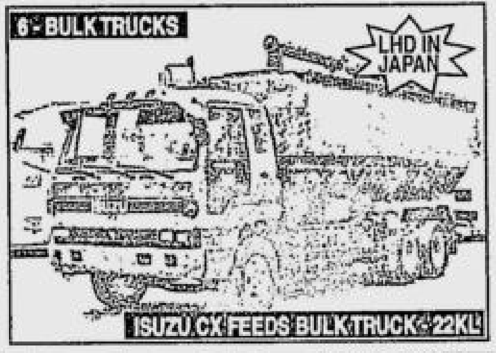

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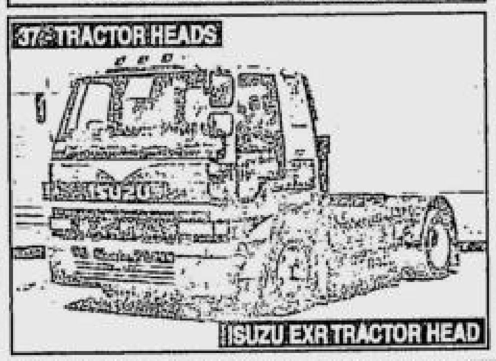
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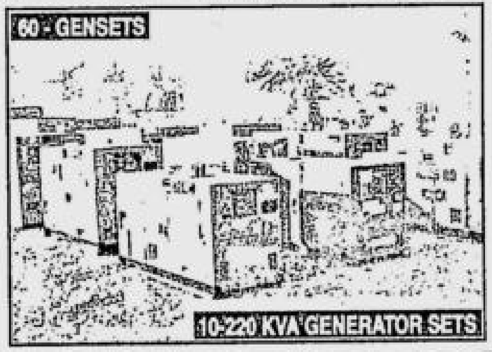
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4	Miami Heat	vs	New Jersey Nets	9 AM
	LA Lakers	vs	Utah Jazz	11:30 AM
5	Minnesota T'Wolves	vs	Denver Nuggets	11:30 AM
	Washington Wizards	vs	Charlotte Bobcats	2 PM
6	San Antonio Spurs	vs	LA Lakers	11:30 AM
	Phoenix Suns	vs	Philadelphia 76ers	2 PM
7	Philadelphia 76ers	vs	Detroit Pistons	8:30 AM
	Sacramento Kings	vs	Houston Rockets	11:30 AM
8	San Antonio Spurs	vs	Seattle Sonics	9 AM
	Portland Trailblazers	vs	Toronto Raptors	11:30 AM
9	Denver Nuggets	vs	Utah Jazz	10 AM

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Moldogo advances

DAVE Erick Moldogo downed Edmison Fontanilla, 15-3,15-3, and Dan Erico Gutierrez outplayed Rodolfo Suyat III, 15-8, 10-15, 15-10, yesterday to forge a semifinal showdown in the boys' singles 18-under division of the 2004 Toby's Age-Group Badminton Championships at the La Salle-Greenhills FMAC gym.

In the boys' singles 16-under category, Kelvin Tim Ang gained the semifinals against Adrian Pagsanjan, while Kevin Alfred Dalisay advanced against Paolo Jay Dawal.

Winners in the girls' singles 16-under class were Maiqui Laurel, Jemellee Vicencio, Raquel Ann Guerrero, and Jertie Kagalingan.

Winston Aquilo advanced against Heildenberg Dimarucot.

In the girls' singles 18-under class, Ronnielie Kagalingan, Rachel Guerrero, Erma Galario and Dalia Santiago barged into the semis.

Booking semifinal slots in the boys' 14-under division were Peter Gabriel Magnaye, Andrei Babad, Gerard Certeza and Ronel Estanislao while winners in the girls' division were Jackilyn Cudia, Kristine Padura, Fatima Cruz and Cheska Bermejo.

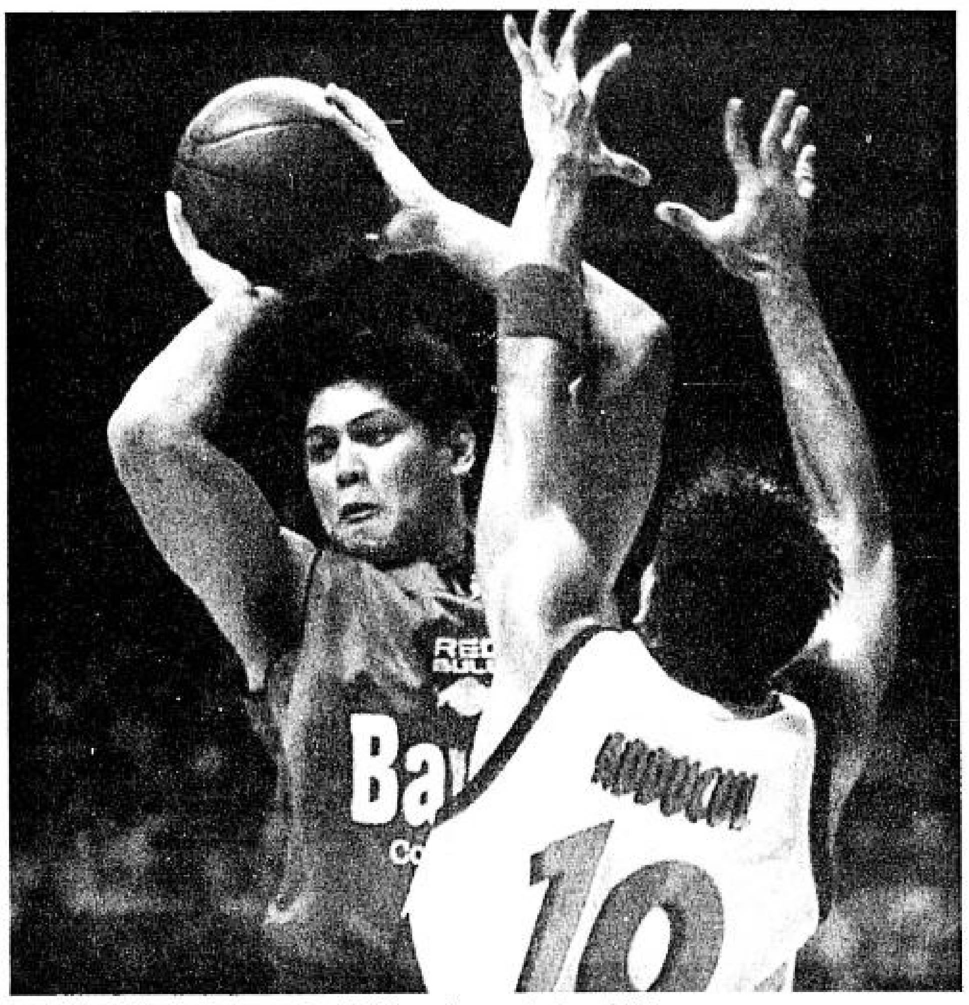
Semifinalists in the 12-under were Luigi Recomono, Peter Magnaye, Honesto Buendia III, Enzo Guerrero in the boys' division and Rica Joyce Fanila, Francesca Gamboa, Hazel Ann Lacorte and Michelle Cruz in the girls' division. Winners in the 10-under division were Al Craven Chan, Don Buena, Bryan Osenar, Erick Lacson, Kiko Alejo, Michelle Hernandez, Gelita Castillo, Malvin Alcala and Regina de la Merced.

Fistorama on RPN 9

"SAMSUNG'S Fistorama" today features two action-filled bouts in the flyweight and super flyweight divisions. Former national amateur boxer Roberto Lerio faces Noel Guliman in four rounds at 112 lb while Jonathan Lobo squares off with Chris Dujali in six rounds at 115 lb.

The bouts were held last week at the Joe Cantada Boxing Arena in Taguig.

The boxing show is aired weekly in the United States, Europe, Australia, Japan, the Middle East and other parts of the world through ABS-CBN's Pinoy Central TV. It is shown at 2 p.m., Sundays, on RPN 9 and is supported by Samsung electronics Phils. Corp., PCSO, Mapecon and Tanduay Rhum.



ENRICO Villanueva is now Red Bull's main man in the middle. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Villanueva relishes starting center role

By June Navarro

TAKING responsibility of Red Bull Barako's burden in the slot is nothing new for Enrico Villanueva.

During his collegiate days at the Ateneo, the 6-foot-6 Villanueva had surmounted greater odds by leading the Blue Eagles to a UAAP crown in 2002 while capturing the season MVP in return.

So when Villanueva was accidentally shoved into the Barako's roster as their starting center, last year's PBA Rookie of the Year has been up to the task.

"There's no choice but to adjust quickly and fill the spots that have to be filled. I was forced into this situation but I'm not complaining. I just take it as part of the challenge of my career," said the 24-year-old Villanueva.

After Davonn Harp and Mick Pennisi got suspended by the PBA due to citizenship problems, the Barako hired the shot-blocking Omanzie Rodriguez and Jovy Sese to beef up their ailing frontline.

Still, much of the load of executing Red Bull Barako's game plan in the paint rests on Villanueva's shoulders. And he's been delivering so far.

Villanueva has been averaging 23.5 points and 12.5 rebounds the past two games, a giant leap from his 13.7-point output and seven boards per game when Harp and Pennisi were still around.

In a recent triple-overtime win against Sta. Lucia Realty in Bacolod City, Villanueva muscled his way to a career-high 28 points and 16 rebounds against the Realtors' tower tandem of Marlou Aquino and Dennis Espino.

Against San Miguel Beer the other night, Villanueva finished with 19 points and nine rebounds against Dorian Peña and Danny Ildefonso. San Miguel won, however, 93-82.

"I always see matching up against the big players of the other teams as an investment for the future. It's good for my career and I learn from it," said Villanueva.

"I'm looking at my third year before my career begins to reach its peak. But as things turned out, it might be earlier than expected," said Villanueva.

RP topples Hungary, lands 12th

The final standings:

OPEN SECTION (129 teams)

39.5—Ukraine; 36.5—Russia, Armenia; 35.0—United States; 34.5—Israel; 34.0—India; 33.5—Cuba; 33.0—Netherlands; 32.5—Bulgaria, Spain A, Greece; 32.0—Philippines, Poland, Switzerland, Uzbekistan, Serbia Montenegro, Germany, Slovenia, Belarus, Romania; 31.5—Georgia, Azerbaijan, France, China, Bosnia Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Denmark; 31.0—Czech Republic, England, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Argentina, Australia

WOMEN'S SECTION (89 teams)

31.0—China; 28.0—United States; 27.5—Russia, Georgia; 25.5—France; 25.0—Hungary, Slovakia, England; 24.5—India, Poland, Armenia, Netherlands; 20.5 (47th place)—Philippines, Australia, Venezuela, Iceland, Wales, Turkey, Brazil

MALLORCA, Spain—The Philippines saved its best for last, stunning five-time world champion Hungary, 2.5-1.5, Friday and jumping to 12th place at the close of the 36th World Chess Olympiad.

International Master Mark Paragua notched the pivotal win for the Filipinos, smashing Grandmaster Robert Ruck with the white pieces at board three.

GMs Eugene Torre and Joey Antonio drew with super GMs Zoltan Almasi (2650) and Ferenc Berkes (2630), respectively, while IM Jayson Gonzales halved the point with former world junior and European champion GM Peter Acs.

The win, a resounding follow-up to their 2.5-1.5 conquest of former champion Serbia Montenegro (formerly Yugoslavia), lifted the Filipinos to 12th place in a tie with Poland, Switzerland, Uzbekistan, Germany, Slovenia, Belarus, Romania and Serbia Montenegro.

The Filipinos ended up with 32 points to mark the Philippines' best finish since the breakup of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia. The final tally also turned out to be the best after the 33 points posted by the seventh-place 1988 squad in Thessaloniki, Greece.

The Philippines finished ahead of arch rival China and powerhouse nations like England, Hungary, Azerbaijan, France, Georgia and the Czech Republic.

National Chess Federation of the Philippines president Go Teng Kok, who followed the games at home, sent a congratulatory message to the team.

The Filipinos started their final push by crushing Singapore, 3.5-0.5, in the 12th round.

Following the victories over Serbia Montenegro and Hungary, the Filipinos scored 8.5 out of 12 points in the last three rounds.

Paragua, whose GM title was delayed following the failure of the Alushta organizers to submit a report on time, ended his second Olympic appearance with 7.5 points and a performance rating of 2556.

Antonio, undefeated in the last two Olympiads, finished with 6.5 points out of nine rounds with a performance rating of 2613.

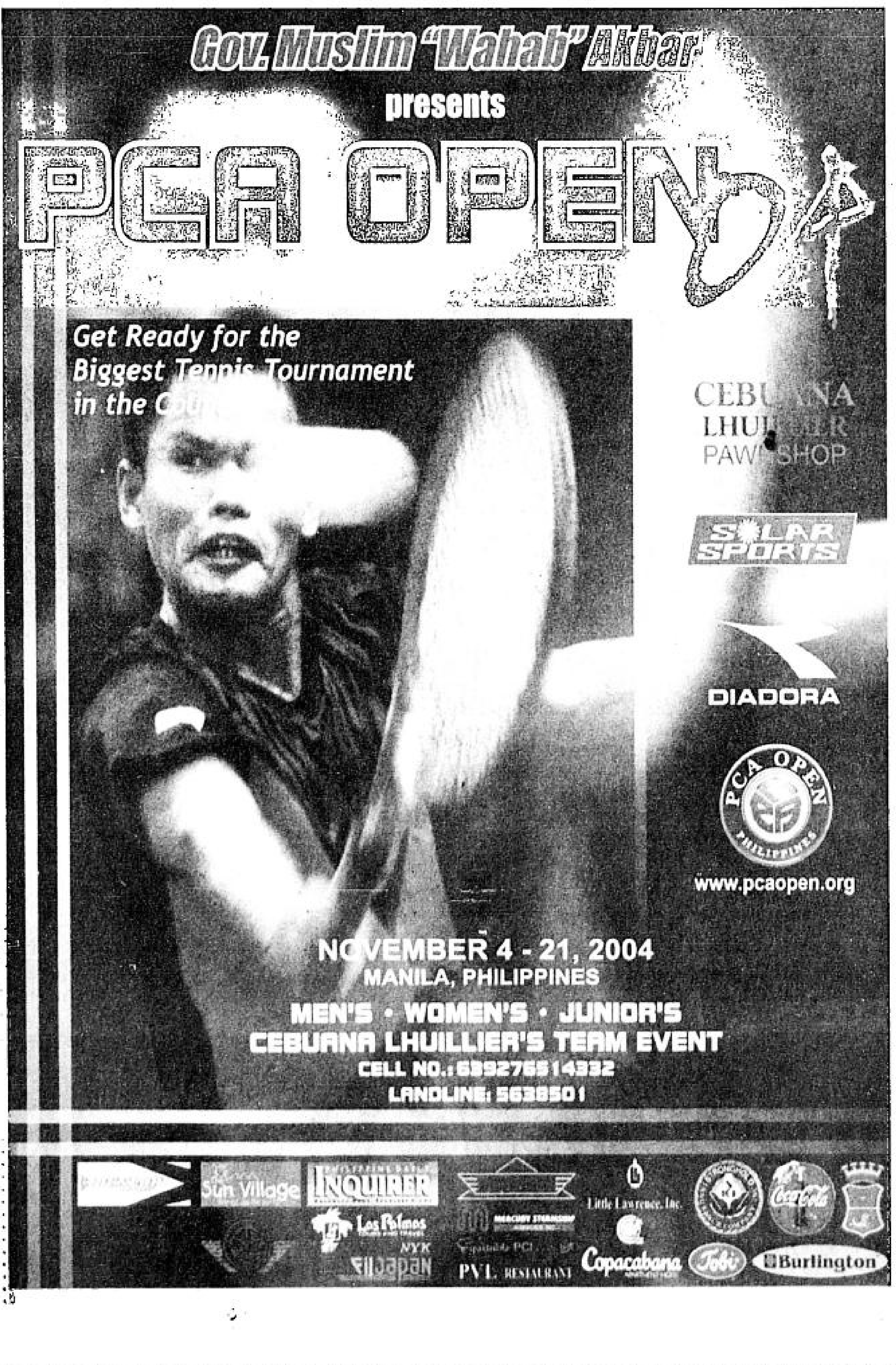
Gonzales, the team's top scorer with 8 points out of 11, had a performance rating of 2588, missing the GM norm by 12 points.

Torre, fresh from a two-day rest, round out his 18th Olympic stint with 5.5 points in 10 games with a performance rating of 2606.

Ukraine won the championship for the first time, tallying 39.5 points.

In women's play, the Philippines beat IPCA, 2-1, and shared 47th spot despite being ranked 65th.

Loreshyl Cuizon provided the lone win while WFM Sheerie Joy Lomibao and WIM Beverly Mendoza drew their matches as the Filipinas scored 20.5 points.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American media shun chess as a sport event

By Percy D. Della
Contributor

SACRAMENTO—The dateline is sexy enough.

Mallorca on Spain's Mediterranean coast.

And the event played on the island for at least a fortnight—the 36th World Chess Olympiad—created enough excitement to enliven sports pages in half of the globe—the Philippines included.

But not in the United States.

The country that produced Bobby Fischer, arguably the most enigmatic personality the world has ever known, seems to thumb its nose at him as an athlete.

Worse, American media do not even consider chess as a sport.

Not even when Fischer became a hero of the Cold War when he beat Russia's Boris Spassky for the world chess crown in 1972 and in a rematch in 1992.

The American media still have to find a soft spot in their hearts for chess news. Hence, the present generation of sports fans are unaware of the past exploits of the illustrious grandmasters of the past—Fischer, Alekhine, Lasker, etc.

American daily newspapers print weekly chess columns in their leisure sections. They also run an occasional human-interest story about chess, often coupled with a photo of people young and old, playing the royal game in Moscow cafés, Polish baths and New York's Central Park.

But like billiards, American media have not yet accepted chess as a competition sport.

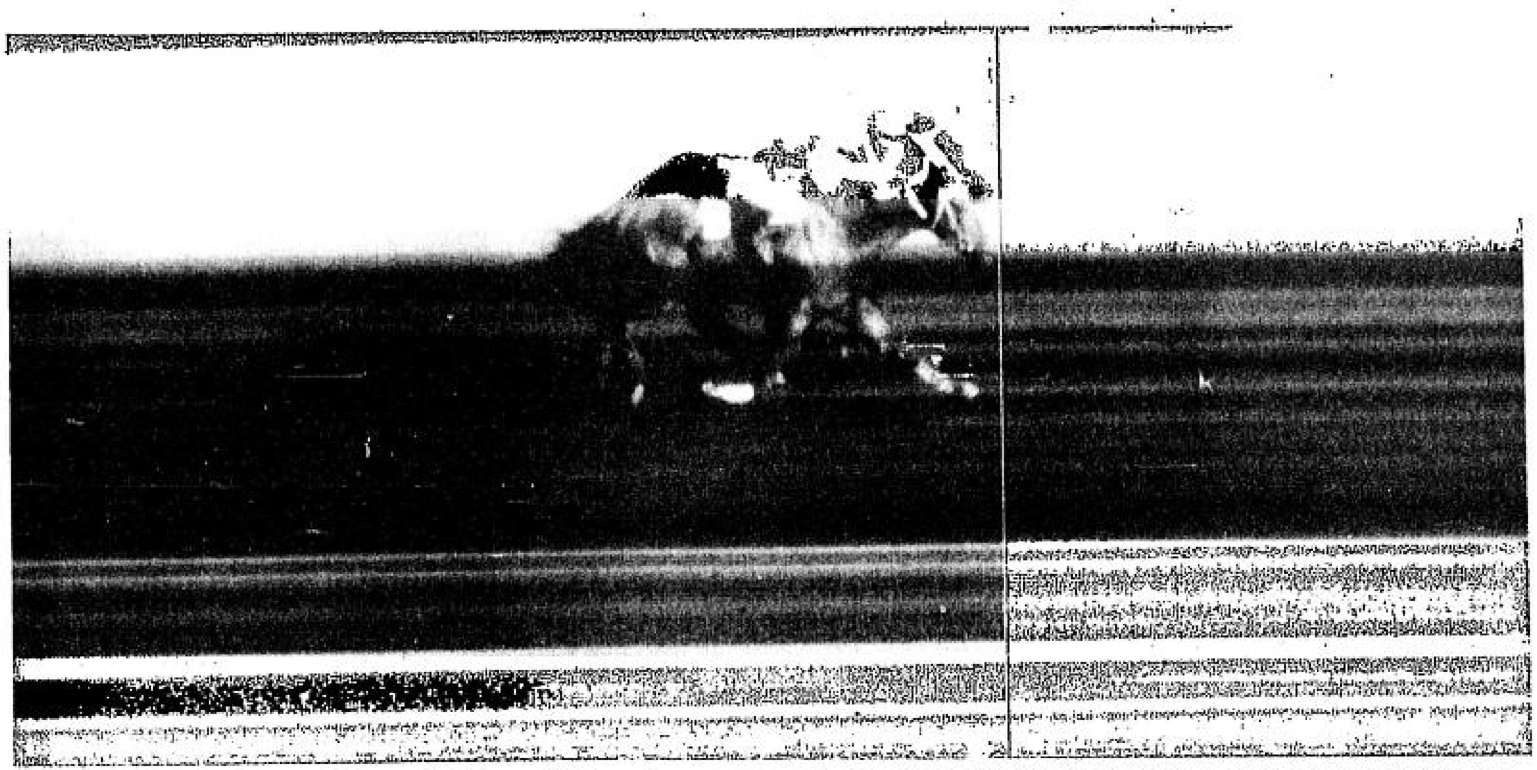
"Because it is not a regular sport, " says Bill Dwyre, sports editor of the Los Angeles Times. Dwyre told the INQUIRER "it (chess) is fine entertainment, a challenging game, but it is an intellectual competition which means it belongs on our news or entertainment pages, not in sports, where there needs to be at least some sort of physical output for it to qualify (as a sport)"

"I love the game, but I'm afraid it doesn't fit the definition of sport, at least that's how it's defined in this country," explained Chuck Scott, sports editor of the San Diego Union Tribune. " Chess is a board game that relies solely upon intelligence, rather than physical activity," Scott told the INQUIRER.

Chess detractors say sports are organized physical competitions, and anything that seriously mixes the physical and the competitive is a sport. They say sports do not include chess because, although it is strenuous and exhausting, it calls for mental combat rather than physical combat.

Alan T. Sherman, a computer science professor in Baltimore sums up the sentiment of chess advocates. In an essay on the Internet, Sherman writes: "Although chess is not a physical sport, it is nevertheless a sport, because it depends crucially on abstract reasoning. Moreover, chess can be an exciting spectator sport as lively and entertaining as any basketball game. The excitement stems from its rich strategy, tactics, psychology, imagination, and human struggle."

MUAY THAI BETS: Former World Boxing Council champion Gerry Peñalosa (center), Davies Pagsigan, Brent Velasco, Billy Alumno and Ryan Bagsiyao will don the Philippine colors in the World Championships Muay Thai Festival Against Drugs. The sport's biggest event will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from Nov. 4-13.



BY A NOSE: Marlon Cunanan's Pyramid Relaunch (7) loses by a mere nose to Super Hero (5) in the Klub Don Juan de Manila Juvenile Stakes last Sunday at the San Lazaro Leisure Park. Pyramid Relaunch, a 2-year-old filly sired by Khozaam out of Rework, is a full sister to Shining Pyramid, winner of the 2002 Juvenile Fillies Championship opening leg.

Tolentino, Unabia clinch Osaka 10-K

TWO JOURNEYMEN from Mindanao stunned the hometown crowd when they emerged champions of the elite 10-Kilometer Open division of the 5th Osaka-Guardo Anniversary Run yesterday.

Queen City International Run champion Aileen Tolentino of Cagayan de Oro and Arnold Unabia (31 minutes 11 seconds) of Tangub City took contrasting routes to claim the championship trophy and the top purse of P5,000.

Tolentino was running breast to breast with Christy Sevilleno of University of Cebu when the latter suffered stomach cramps and had to stop temporarily to recover her form in front of Cebu Normal University.

This paved the way for Tolentino and another Cebuana, Leizle Lumindas-Getaruelas, to get the edge.

Lumindas-Getaruelas finished second for a prize of P3,000 and Sevilleno, the defending champion, dropped to third place for P2,000.

An athletics coach of the Tangub City Government, Unabia placed second to Bowen Montecillo in the same race in 2000. Yesterday, he extracted revenge as Montecillo dropped to third place with second-place honors going to Joseph Penales (32 mins 20 secs) of Bohol.

In the 5-km race, Xanderlyn Loloy of Saint Alphonsos College of Lapu-lapu City reaffirmed his dominance. A 3-gold winner in the recent Milo Little Olympics here at the Cebu City Sports Center, Loloy was followed by Juluis Penserga and Michael Magpatoc.

Esguerra gallopers SLR Cup favorites

By Edwin Villanueva, *Contributor*

REVVED up by a runner-up finish a week ago, Neat Laurel teams up with Royal Catch when they try to capture the Sta. Lucia Realty Cup today at the Santa Ana Park.

The 1-2 Hermie Esguerra punch are expected to go up as top picks mainly because of their contrasting running styles that could give their rivals a lot of headache in the 1,600-meter trip.

Royal Catch, to be handled by ace rider Pat Dilema, is expected to get to the lead early on in the absence of other noted speedballs, while Neat Laurel may just float along and then put up a big run in the stretch.

"*Pag pinabayaan nila 'to sa harapan may tulog sila* (If they allow her to set the pace, they may be caught flat-footed)," said Dilema on Royal Catch, a fast-stepping 5-year-old roan who drew the favorable stall No. 1.

On the other hand, Neat Laurel appears to be ready to get back to the winner's enclosure since her impressive victory in the PSA Cup last May.

"*Nagsilbing batak yung pagkakasegundo niya* last week. *Tingin ko handa na uling manalo* (Her second-place finish last week served as a good tune-up. I think she's ready to win again)," said Jesse Guce on Neat Laurel, the 5-year-old mare who landed second to Dandansoy in the Klub Don Juan de Manila Golden Girl Stakes last Oct. 24 at San Lazaro.

Posing threats to Esguerra's entries are Art of Rose and Lord of All, first and second placers, respectively, in the recent Philtobo Classic, as well as battle-tested Lyonnais. Completing the cast are Glamour and Mossette.

Veterans Jose Macaraig and Esteban de Vera retained their rides on Art of Rose and Lord of All while Elpidio Aguila will be back to steer Lyonnais. John Cordero partners Glamour while Jeffril Zarate mounts Mossette.

Esguerra's other horses are also tipped to perform creditably in the other featured events.

Ouzo and Real Slew are battling West Bound and Being There in the La Mirada Mile, while Marque and Crystal Show are heading the cast in the Rizal Technopark Mile. Ragini takes part in the Glenrose Special, Hellfire sees action in the Woodridge Heights Special, while Sugar Ray, the former Black Gold, tries to nail down a long-sought win when he runs in the Orchard Special.

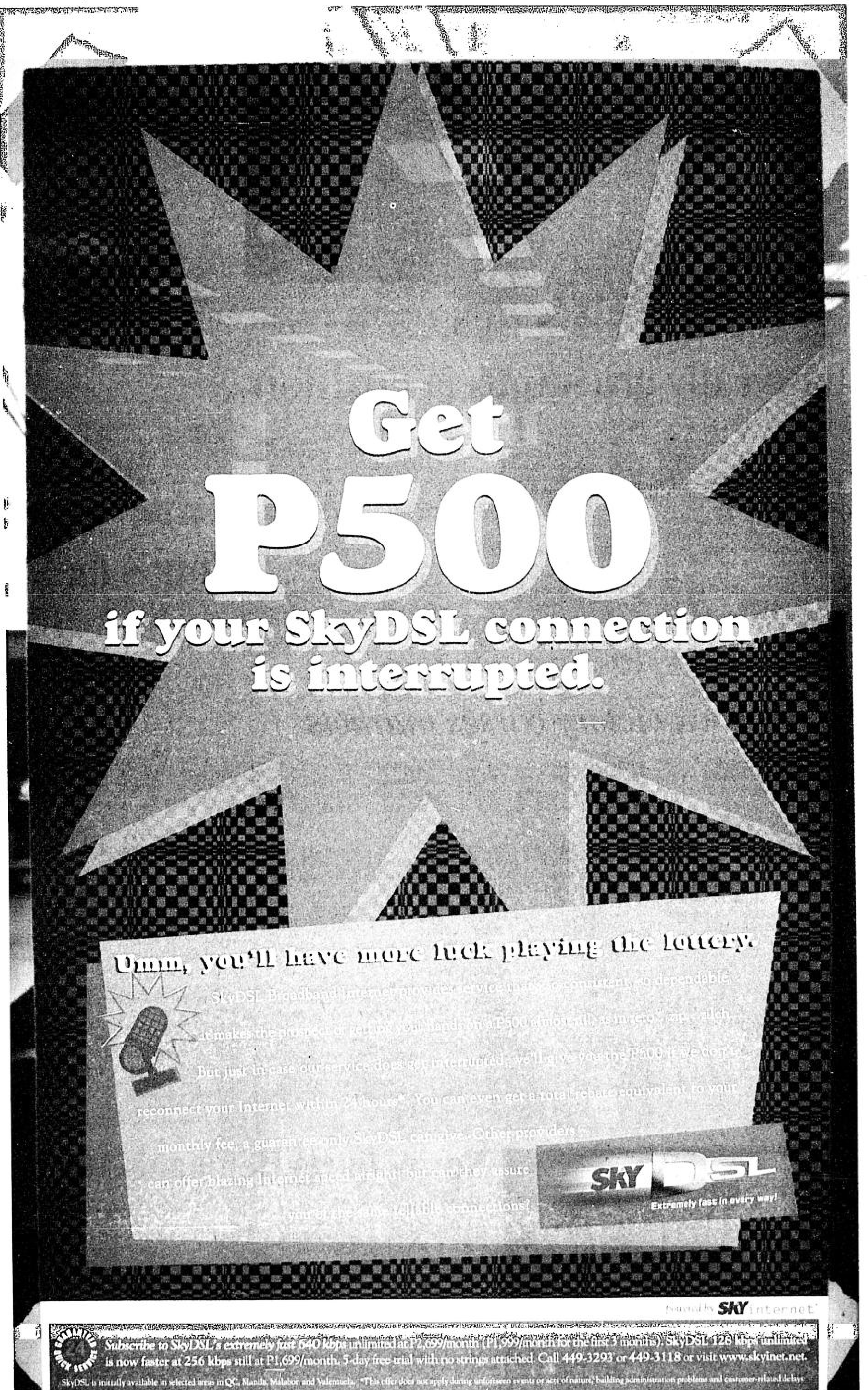
Dilema is also guiding Ouzo, Crystal Show, Ragini and Sugar Ray, while Guce skippers Real Slew and Marque. Ronald Baldonido will sub for Angelito Laguinto on Hellfire.

The event is jointly backed by the Philracom under chair Jimmy Dilag, Philippine Racing Club and Sta. Lucia Realty and Dev. Corp.

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Sugar Ray 2. Ground Wave 3. Federal Court/Look of Love
Race 2—1. Money Man 2. Pandora 3. Worth Ur While 4. Friendly Venture
Race 3—1. Ragini 2. Perfect Storm 3. Hyperbid
Race 4—1. Windy City 2. Day Break 3. Laughing Matter
Race 5—1. Court General 2. Half Medium 3. Malone
Race 6—1. Hellfire 2. Flying Jordan 3. Oliver Sun Joy 4. Tiger Song
Race 7—1. Señor Presidente 2.Socialize 3. Pasint 4. Voice of Destiny 5. Great Year
Race 8—1. Royal Catch/Neat Laurel 2. Lyonnais 3. Lord of All 4. Mossette
Race 9—1. Ocean Cookie 2. Coolmore 3. Speed Admiral 4. Queen Banana
Race 10—1. Aya's Star 2. Hezabellagio 3. Expediter 4. Silver Dollar 5. Top Quest
Race 11—1. Marque/Crystal Show 2. Crystal City 3. Joker 4. Surprise Target
Race 12—1. Ouzo 2. West Bound
Race 13—1. Noble House 2. Wrecking Ball 3. Epic Energy 4. Doctor Ben 5. Kiss Me Quick
Race 14—1. Magic Bullet 2. Hurry Prince 3. Western Dancer 4. Reporter/Princess Indy 5. Carolina Belle 6. Crown the King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RP grabs Hong Kong amateur title

HONG KONG—Jay Bayron shot a gutsy two-under par 69 to secure the victory for the Philippine team while firming up his bid for the individual crown after three rounds of play in the Aquascutum Hong Kong Open Amateur and Mid-Amateur Golf Championships at the Hong Kong Golf Club's Old course in Fanling Saturday.

Bayron wore down Tommy Manotoc in their head-to-head duel, closing out with a 33-36 card that proved enough to keep his overnight lead of three strokes heading into the final round of the annual event, which stakes a berth in the rich Hong Kong Omega Championship slated here in December.

Bayron's 69 likewise held off the charging Taiwanese squad in their bid to snatch the crown in the 54-hole team competition as the Filipinos, with Erwin Vinluan counting for team with a 73, closed out with a 142 for a 54-hole total of 420.

Jun Bernis, winner of three titles back home, including the national championship, floundered with a 76 and didn't count in the three-to-play, two-to-count format event.

Taiwan, which started the round four shots behind the Filipinos, threatened to steal the thunder behind Shih Chang Chan, who sizzled with a 68. But Shih failed to muster support from his teammates with Po Ming Chen, who shot a 69 in the second round, limped with a 73. Chia Cheng Shih didn't count with an 81.

Vinluan, who also counted for the team in the first round, actually appeared headed for an explosive day with a birdie-birdie opening but he lost his touch on the par-5 No. 6, where he made an 8 after going out-of-bounds twice on his second shot.

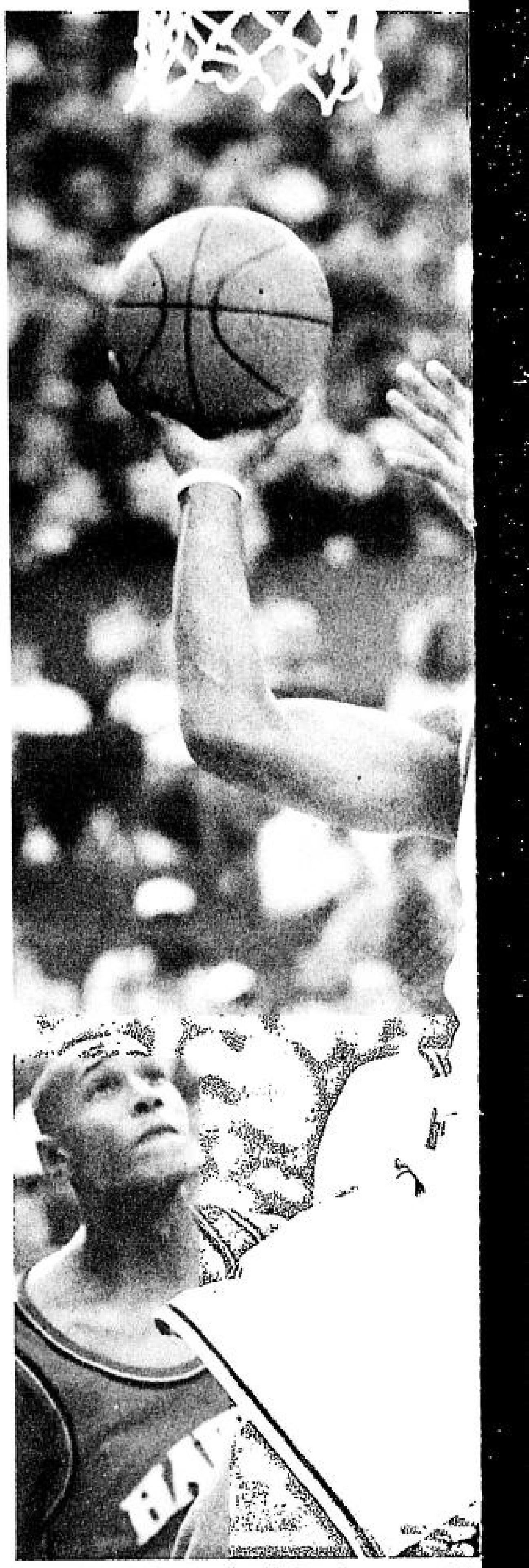
After shooting a 68 in the second day, Bernis struggled from tee to green all day, holing out with a bogey on the 18th after barely slicing his drive into the wooded area. He punched into the greenside bunker and muffed a six-foot putt for par.

But Bayron, whose stint here is sanctioned by the National Golf Association of the Philippines and backed by NGAP secretary general Adm. Luisito Fernandez, Mizuno and the Philippine Sports Commission, remained the most consistent player in the team, matching Manotoc's two-under card after nine holes then bucked a bogey on the 15th that ruined his running three-under card..

He did approach poorly from around '75 yards on the par-4 18th but pitched superbly for a tap-in birdie and a 69.

That gave the former caddies champion a 54-hole aggregate of 206 as he kept his three-shot lead intact in the individual championship, although this time over Shih, who had a 209.

Manotoc fell a stroke farther with a 210 after that 70 but remained a threat just the same with one round left in the event, where the winner will earn the right to play against the pros in the Hong Kong Omega Open.



THE CLEVELAND Cavaliers' LeBron James soars in fr
match. James will be one of the players to watch in th

Golden shines, ties Park at top

JEJU, South Korea—Kate Golden fired an eight-under-par 64 on Saturday to tie South Korea's Grace Park for the lead after a second round at the CJ Nine Bridges Classic.

With a two-day total of 135, Golden and Park were two strokes ahead of Jill McGill of the United States, and Soo-Yun Kang and defending champion Shi Hyun Ahn, both from South Korea.

"It was just a really good day. I drove the ball well and think I hit every fairway," said Golden, who carded six birdies and sank a dramatic 20-foot putt for an eagle in the par-5 18.

"When I hit the putt, I didn't think I hit it hard enough," the American said, describing her eagle putt.

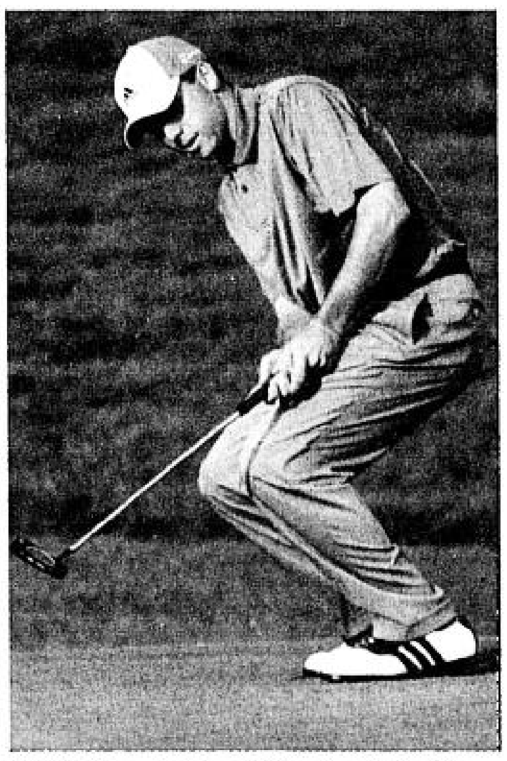
Hoping to win her second LPGA Tour title this year, Park shot a 69 Saturday with four birdies and one bogey at the par-4 8th hole. She led the first round with a 66.

Park attracted a big following of home fans at the 5,764-meter (6,306-yard) Nine Bridges Club in Jeju, a resort island off South Korea's south coast.

"I have a huge amount of family and friends following me all three days. It's nice to see everyone," she said.

"I love getting the support. They're very cheerful."

Top-ranked Annika Sorenstam, who carded a 71 in the first round, fired a 67 on Saturday for a two-day total of 138. *AP*



SPANISH golfer Sergio Garcia putts in the 17th hole during the second round during the Volvo Masters at the Valderrama Golf Club in San Roque, Spain. AFP

Hot Aussie leads Sanya by 3 shots

SANYA, China—Terry Pilkadaris celebrated his 31st birthday by shooting five straight birdies Saturday to take a three-stroke lead going into the final round of the Sanya Open.

Filipino Gerald Rosales is five shots down with a 205.

Pilkadaris shot a six-under-par 66 to take his three-day total to 16-under-par 200, just days after winning the inaugural Shanghai Open.

The Australian bogeyed the second hole but came rallied to start his birdie run on the sixth. Course officials presented him with a cake and a chorus of "Happy Birthday" after his round.

"I had a good rhythm out there and standing over the putts, I felt really confident," Pilkadaris said.

"I won't do anything different tomorrow and will stick to my routine, and have some fun," he said.

Taiwan's Chang Tse-peng matched Pilkadaris' 66 to move into second place with a three-day total of 203.

Chinese favorite Liang Wen-chong and Thai veteran Boonchu Ruangkit fired rounds of 66 and 64, respectively to finish the day four strokes off the lead.

Sri Lanka's Anura Rohana tied the course record with a 63 to share fifth place with Korea's Charlie Wi, Rosales and Americans Gerry Norquist and Clay Devers. *AP*

Late rally gives Garcia cushion

SOTOGRANDE, Spain—Sergio Garcia birdied the last two holes to overcome a poor start and a referee's inquiry Friday to record a two-under-par 69 and snatch a one-stroke lead in the Volvo Masters at Valderrama.

But before his position was confirmed, Garcia had to survive a 30-minute investigation into whether he had broken the rules.

It was alleged he had not declared a second shot off the tee at the 196-yard third hole a provisional ball and then played that ball without knowing that spectators had found the original.

Chief referee John Paramor finally absolved Garcia of any blame and his lead stood.

Under golf rules, once a player hits his first putt with a provisional ball, it then becomes the ball in play and the original is deemed to be lost.

After a bogey at the first hole and a double bogey five at the third, Garcia birdied five holes on the back nine to move past Alastair Forsyth into the lead with a six-under-par total of 136.

The Scot bogeyed the last for a 69 and was in turn one clear of Ian Poulter, whose 67 contained no dropped shots.

But Darren Clarke was not so fortunate as he piled up a disastrous six-over-par 11 at Valderrama's treacherous 536-yard (490-metre) 17th hole, where the green slopes forward with a lake right in front of it.

After playing the first 16 holes Friday in four under, Clarke hit his second shot into a bunker at the 17th.

It went from bad to worse.

"I hit a sand wedge which spun back into the water," he said.

"I dropped out, hit another one from 70 yards (64 meters), another really good shot right behind the flag. It pitched back and kept going into the water. Back to the drop zone, hit another, a bit heavy. It pitched over the flag and came back into the water.

"I hit another to the back edge of the green. It spun back but stayed up on top. Two putts, 11."

Until then, he had a fine round going.

"I was five under par, on top of the leaderboard," he said.

Now he shares 25th place. *AP*

Chut's makes Platinum Cup

By Musong R. Castillo

CHUT'S barged into the national finals of the Battle of the Courts: Platinum Inter-Club Badminton championships yesterday after the first day of the withdrawal-riddled North eliminations.

Chut's wound up with a perfect 5-0 slate after downing Sure Play-Murphy, 3-0, in the only elimination round game played in Group C of the event sponsored by INQUIRER Badminton and Globe Platinum.

Host Olympic Badminton, Battle Door, C-4 and Banawe all withdrew because of problems in player eligibility, leaving Chut's and Sure Play-Murphy to battle it out for the top honors.

The North leg drew a total of 18 teams, which were divided into three groups. Only the top teams in each group advance to the national finals set Nov. 21 and 22 at the Market! Market! in Fort Bonifacio.

Eight Metro Manila teams and three teams from the South will vie in the national finals.

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Red Sox victory curses markets

BOSTON—Unbelievable as it may seem, not everyone in New England is thrilled about the Red Sox winning the World Series.

Retailers of everything from T-shirts to ice cream and cookies had been making money off the team's championship drought for years. When the Red Sox finished off a World Series sweep of the St. Louis Cardinals on Wednesday to win their first title since 1918, the long-reliable marketing strategy fell apart.

But the retailers aren't surrendering to history; they're just modifying their message. An ice cream company is staging a contest to rename its "Reverse the Curse" flavor, and apparel makers are trying gimmicks like printing the word "curse" backward to signify its reversal.

"This is a challenge for creative thinking," said Stephen A. Greyser, a Harvard Business School professor and marketing expert.

No matter what new slogans emerge, retailers admit it will be tough to top "The Curse of the Bambino," named because of Boston owner Harry Frazee's decision to sell Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees.

"I think it's naive to think it won't tail off some," said Chuck Green, president and chief executive of Brigham's Ice Cream, the company behind the flavor renaming contest. "But a lot of people said, 'Just because we won, don't stop making this stuff.' We think it has a little more legs to it than what I would call 'hula hoops' items."

Brigham's, which sells its ice cream at its 26 Boston-area shops and at supermarkets, introduced the Reverse the Curse flavor in May. A pair of spiritualists blessed the first batch produced at the Arlington factory as a hired Babe Ruth-lookalike took off a Yankees jersey to display a Red Sox shirt underneath.

The flavor—vanilla with chocolate, fudge, caramel and peanuts—became the fastest-selling new flavor in the chain's 90-year history.

At a downtown store on Thursday, the line of customers extended out onto the street, and owner Vinnie Jankord placed special orders to keep the flavor in stock.

Green credits the flavor for a nearly 10 percent sales increase in his company's 16-flavor line over the baseball season.

Brigham's plans to announce a winner of its renaming contest on Sunday. The company is making good on the promise it made in the spring, when Brigham's counted itself among the Sox optimists expecting 2004 to be the year the curse was broken.

Hundreds of suggestions from customers—including some unprintable references to the hated Yankees—have been narrowed down to four finalists: Curse Reversed, Believe It, Sox Rock and Fenway Faithfuls.

Greyser said getting customers hooked on the flavor, rather than its name, is the key to its survival. *AP*

Gabica rules 9-Ball tilt

CEBUANO ace Antonio Gabica beat Dennis Orcullo, 17-6, for the Motolite 9-Ball Philippine Open title last Friday at the Casino Filipino Amphitheater in Parañaque City.

Gabica raced to a 5-0 lead as Orcullo failed to run out an open table on the second frame.

Orcullo stemmed the bleeding on the sixth frame, but Gabica stringed 11 straight to reach the hill at 16-1 en route to the championship trophy and the P500,000 top prize.

Orcullo went home with the P200,000 runner-up prize, while losing semifinalists Ramil Gallego and Ronnie Alcano earned P100,000 each.

Meanwhile, Southeast Asian Games gold winner (9-ball doubles event) Warren Kiamco failed to participate in the 2004 Tokyo 9-ball Open after getting robbed of his passport and his Rado watch worth P10,000 yesterday morning.

Kiamco, who lives in Murphy, Quezon City, said the watch did not matter, what he needs is his passport with Japan and US visa.

Defending champion Alex Pagulayan will spearhead the country's bid in the event along with Filipino billiard master Efren "Bata" Reyes, Francisco "Django" Bustamante, Antonio Linging, and the Solar Sports-backed trio of Gabica, Orcullo and Gallego. The tournament starts tomorrow. *Marlon Benardino*

TENNIS star Andr
Verdasco of Spain i
ATP tennis tournar

NICOLAS Massu celebrates his victory against Bohdan Ulihrach. AP

Novak hurts Henman's Masters chances

BASEL, Switzerland—World No. 4 Tim Henman was knocked out in the quarterfinals of the Swiss Indoors tournament on Friday, falling, 7-6 (7-5), 7-5, to unseeded Czech Jiri Novak.

There was further bad news for Henman when Argentine fourth seed David Nalbandian staged a remarkable quarterfinal comeback to beat German sixth seed Rainer Schuettler, 4-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-3.

Nalbandian, who had trailed by a set and a break, needed the win to keep alive his slim chances of overtaking Henman in the race for next month's lucrative Masters Cup.

Henman, though, can make sure of a place in the eight-strong Masters Cup field by reaching the quarterfinals at next week's Paris Masters.

"It's a bit soon to think about my feelings for Paris but it's going to be an important week for sure," Henman said.

"Of course it's disappointing to go out here in Basel, but I'll be coming away with a lot more positive aspects than I did after (last week's Masters Series tournament in) Madrid.

"I feel like I'm hitting the ball well again now, and playing well, and the fact that I'm defending the title in Paris will also give me confidence."

Certainly there was little to separate Henman and Novak, but a few stray shots from the Briton coupled with greater Novak efficiency on the break points were enough to see the Czech through.

Novak, who also ended Henman's medal hopes in the first round of the Athens Olympics, will now face Austrian world number 73 Stefan Koubek in the Basel semifinals.

Koubek fought back from a set down on Friday to beat Croatia's Ivan Ljubicic, 2-6, 7-5, 7-5, a win which earned the 27-year-old from Klagenfurt his first ATP semifinal place this year.

Saturday's second semifinal will pit Nalbandian against double Olympic gold medallist Nicolas Massu.

The 25-year-old Chilean beat Czech Bohdan Ulihrach, 6-2, 7-6 (7-4), on Friday to register his best tour result since Athens.

"After Athens it was difficult for me to concentrate on my career because in Chile my Olympic win was so big," Massu said.

"But I'm feeling good again now and if I can win my semi-final, I think I can win the title." *Reuters*

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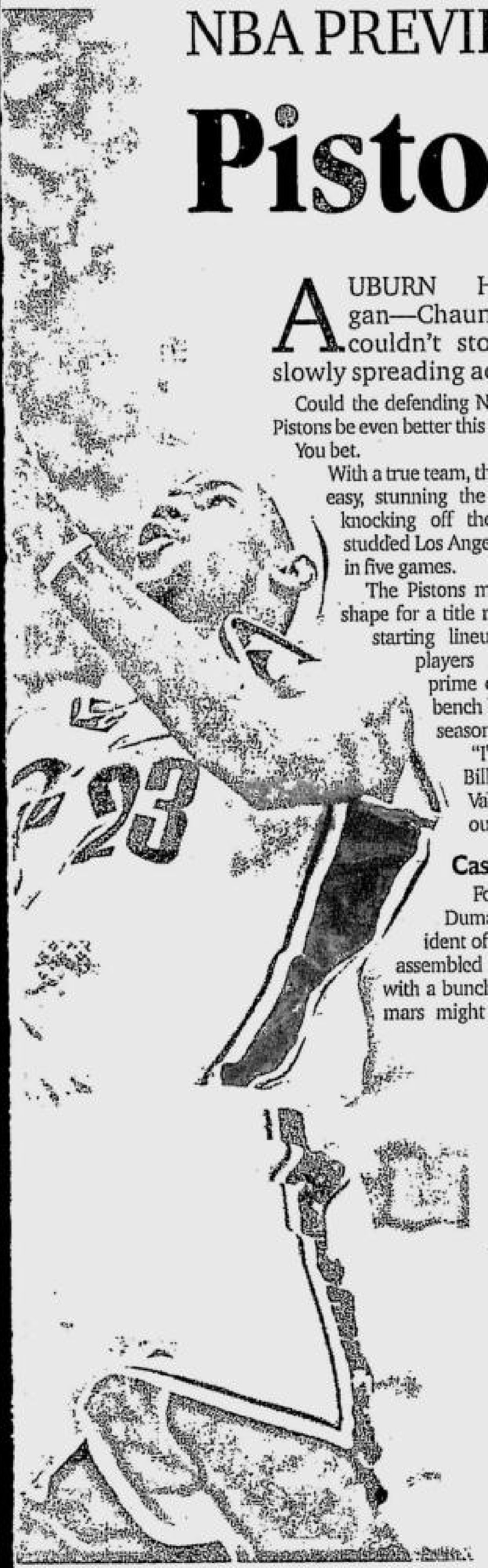
NBA PREVIEW

Pistons back and even better



ont of the Atlanta Hawks' Boris Diaw in a preseason
e coming 2004-05 NBA season. AP

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan—Chauncey Billups couldn't stop a grin from slowly spreading across his face.

Could the defending NBA champion Detroit Pistons be even better this season?

You bet.

With a true team, the Pistons made it look easy, stunning the basketball world by knocking off the dysfunctional star-studded Los Angeles Lakers to win it all in five games.

The Pistons may be in even better shape for a title run this season with a starting lineup that features five players in, or entering, the prime of their careers and a bench bolstered by savvy off-season acquisitions.

"I'm excited," said Billups, the Finals Most Valuable Player. "I'll take our chances."

Castoffs

Former Pistons star Joe Dumars, now Detroit's president of basketball operations, assembled a championship team with a bunch of castoffs. Now, Dumars might have added another key player that other teams didn't want.

After staying up late to watch Antonio McDyess play about 25 games toward the end of last season for the Phoenix Suns, Dumars signed the former All-Star and Olympian to a $23-million, four-year deal to take the spot of Mehmet Okur, who signed a free-agent deal with Utah.

The power forward has averaged 16.7 points, 8.5 rebounds and 1.6 blocks during his eight-year career, but has been plagued by injuries the past three years.

With jaw-dropping dunks and blocks in practice, McDyess looks healthy.

Good addition

"Dyess looks like the old Dyess to me," forward Rasheed Wallace said. "He looks like a good addition."

Though center Ben Wallace and coach Larry Brown have added an NBA championship to their resumé for the first time, they are not approaching the challenge of winning a title again the same way.

"They say it's hard to repeat, but I think the first one is tougher," said Wallace, a two-time All-Star and Defensive Player of the Year.

Brown, Detroit's perfectionist coach, is one of many who say repeating is harder than winning a championship the first time.

"We can't get complacent and we can't forget how we won the first one by playing together," Brown said. "I think a second championship is more difficult because everybody is going to be shooting at us."

Starters back

Detroit's entire starting lineup of players 30 or younger is back: Ben Wallace, Billups, Richard Hamilton, Rasheed Wallace and Tayshaun Prince.

The Pistons lost three top reserves—Okur, Corliss Williamson and Mike James—and added McDyess, Derrick Coleman, Carlos Delfino and Ronald Dupree. They also re-signed veteran reserves Lindsey Hunter and Darvin Ham, and brought back Elden Campbell.

With such a stacked lineup, Darko Milicic likely will spend another season watching from the bench, just as the Pistons figured he would when they drafted him No. 2 overall in 2003.

"We're deep, talented and big," Dumars said. "We have experience and we're battle-tested. Those are great traits to go into the season with. The least of my concerns are about us getting arrogant, cocky or overconfident."

Brown will help make sure of that.

Sloppy

The Hall of Fame coach filled a void in his career with his first NBA title last season, but he's driving the players just as hard as he did a year ago. Many of his practices during training camp stretched to three hours and included the detail-oriented drills Brown is known for, and even preseason games made him grumpy.

"I haven't been real happy," Brown said. "We've been real careless in practice and sloppy in games."

Soon after beating the Lakers, the Pistons said they would not have won the title without Rasheed Wallace.

He was acquired, with an expiring contract, from Atlanta in a three-team deal just before the trading deadline for reserves and two No. 1 picks. Adding him gave Detroit a swagger it lacked, another option on offense and made a great defense, one of the best in league history.

League records

The Pistons made re-signing Rasheed Wallace their top priority, and they did with a $57-million, five-year contract.

The Pistons are convinced they will be even better overall this season, especially on defense—where it might be tough to improve. Last season, Detroit and San Antonio allowed 84.3 points per game, the third-lowest scoring average since the league began using a shot clock during the 1954-55 season.

The Pistons set league records by holding 11 opponents—including five straight—under 70 points, and 36 straight opponents to less than 100.

"I think we're a lot more athletic and bigger than we were last year and that should make us a better defensive team," Billups said. *AP*

Spurs net preseason win vs Hornets; Sonics score

SAN ANTONIO—Tim Duncan scored 17 points to lead the San Antonio Spurs over the New Orleans Hornets, 102-86, Friday.

Tony Parker added 16 points for San Antonio, and newly acquired Brent Barry scored 14.

Barry, who left Seattle as a free agent after last season, was 5-of-6 from the field and 4-of-5 from 3-point range. Reserve Tony Massenburg scored 12 points in 14 minutes.

Baron Davis led the Hornets (3-5) with 21 points, and Chris Anderson had nine rebounds in 25 minutes.

In Toronto, Vince Carter scored 20 points as Toronto beat Cleveland, 100-92.

Robert Traylor had 30 points and 11 rebounds for the Cavaliers (6-2).

Carter missed Toronto's two previous preseason games to deal with a lawsuit filed by a former agent. Carter is expected to return to Columbia, South Carolina, for the trial on Monday, but will be back for Toronto's season-opener at home against Houston on Wednesday night.

In Indianapolis, Indiana guard Reggie Miller broke a bone in his left hand in the Pacers' 98-79 loss to Denver.

Miller left the game in the first quarter, clutching his non-shooting hand. He will be examined Saturday to determine the extent of the injury.

In Minneapolis, Kevin Garnett had 22 points and nine rebounds to lead Minnesota over Detroit, 102-95.

Troy Hudson, in his first game action since March 29, sparked Minnesota with nine second-half points. The Timberwolves' backup point-guard is recovering from offseason surgery on his right ankle.

Fred Hoiberg and Eddie Griffin added 15 each for Minnesota (4-4), which starts the regular season Wednesday at home against New York.

Richard Hamilton had 21 points and nine assists for Detroit (3-5), which had 24 turnovers.

In Sacramento, California, Joe Johnson had 21 points, seven rebounds and seven assists to help Phoenix beat Sacramento, 124-96.

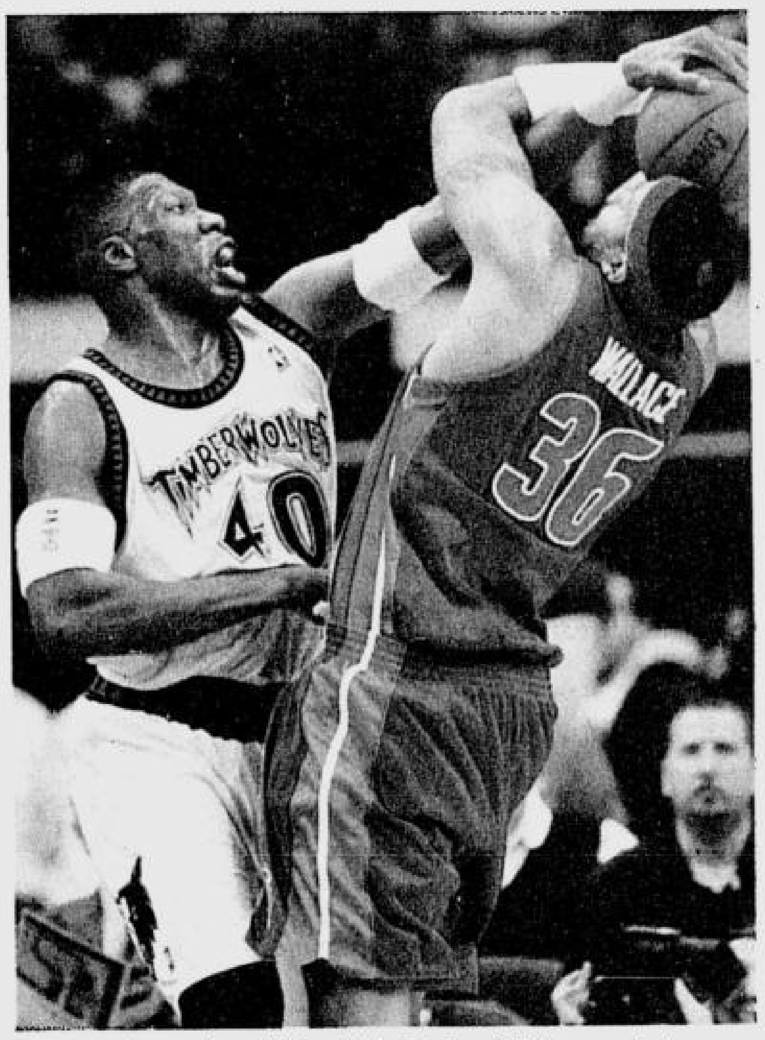
The Suns had a 28-point lead at halftime and the Kings never cut the lead below 20 points in the second half.

Amare Stoudemire had 19 points and seven rebounds for Phoenix. Shawn Marion had 18 points and eight rebounds, Quentin Richardson made five 3-pointers and scored 18 points. Steve Nash added 11 points and eight assists.

Peja Stojakovic hit five 3-pointers and scored 21 points for the Kings.

In Seattle, Ray Allen scored 32 points, including a tiebreaking 3-pointer with 24.6 seconds left, as Seattle edged Portland, 91-87.

Allen, who missed the previous two games with a sore back, scored 17 points in the fourth quarter and had eight of Seattle's last nine. *AP*



SLOPPY plays such as this fumble by Rasheed Wallace against Minnesota's Ervin Johnson make Detroit coach Larry Brown feel that winning a second title will be difficult. AP

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Cathy Kuan
hich did not field a team in the ladies' doubles. Reynaldo Manuel and Rodolfo Eco clinched their stint to the next round with a 15-3, 15-8 victory over Chua Yu and Francis Kua.

Premier Badminton, led by volleyball standout Noreen Go, led Group B with a 3-0 record, needing to win just one of two matches in the second day of hostilities today to make the finals.

Celebrity is 2-0 at presstime after wins over Don Antonio and Greencourt. Former national squash player Manny Yam leads Celebrity.

Agassi wallops a forehand return to Fernando
their quarterfinal match of the Stockholm Open
ent. AFP

Jazz give Kirilenko richest contract

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah—The Utah Jazz said Friday they had agreed to a multi-year extension with All-Star forward Andrei Kirilenko, which is reportedly the most lucrative in the National Basketball Association club's history.

The Jazz did not disclose financial terms. But news reports said Kirilenko would sign a maximum contract of six years for $86 million.

ESPN and the Salt Lake Tribune also reported the Jazz would likely defer some of the money beyond the six-year term of the deal. Under the NBA's collective bargaining agreement, up to 30 percent of a player's compensation can be deferred.

"Andrei is not only our longest-tenured player; he brings toughness and leadership to the team," Jazz president Dennis Haslam said. "We are extremely fortunate to have signed this extension."

With the departure of future Hall of Famers John Stockton and Karl Malone, Russia's Kirilenko came into his own last season when he averaged 16.5 points and 8.1 rebounds in 78 games.

Known for his hustle, Kirilenko, 23, has garnered the reputation as one of the hardest workers in the league. He has increased his scoring and rebounding average in each of the last three seasons.

He has career averages of 13.0 points and 6.1 rebounds in 240 games and said he was looking forward to the future in Utah.

"We have a young, potentially great team—and a legendary coach (Jerry Sloan)," Kirilenko said. "We have a great organization and it's a great confidence to build a team that can dominate the next few years in the league." *AFP*

KIRILENKO: Does the hustle

Agassi marches to Stockholm final 4

STOCKHOLM—Top seed Andre Agassi marched into the Stockholm Open semifinals on Friday, beating Spanish eighth seed Fernando Verdasco, 7-6, 6-2, in his hardest match of the tournament.

Second seed Joachim Johansson, however, retired with a fever from his quarterfinal against his Swedish compatriot, Michael Ryderstedt.

Johansson won the first set, 6-3, but withdrew when Ryderstedt broke him to 5-3 in the second.

Verdasco, untroubled by the crowd's support for the American, matched Agassi in the opening set as both dominated with their service.

"He's tough for anyone to play," said Agassi.

"He's left-handed with a very big serve. It's a difficult serve to read and to return and then he has a very big forehand, so if you just get it in play and you give him the chance to hit the forehand, the point is finished." Verdasco, specializing in aces, needed only to fight off one break point on the way to the tiebreak but failed to sustain his excellence as Agassi broke him in the tiebreak to 5-4 before serving out.

In the following set, Agassi started to read Verdasco's serve, breaking the Spaniard to 2-0 and again to 6-2 to seal the match.

"In a tiebreaker you get a little lucky or you get a little unlucky . . . but in the second set I started to get more returns in and to play more from the baseline and I felt very comfortable then.

"I played a good first game to break him, and then once I was in the lead I think it was a big difference." The Las Vegan next faces fourth seed Tommy Haas, who defeated Belgian Olivier Rochus, 6-3, 7-6. Both Haas and Agassi have yet to lose a set.

"We played twice this summer, back-to-back in Los Angeles and in Canada in Toronto, one and one, we played three sets both times. So it's always a difficult match," said Agassi of Germany's former world No. 2.

"Tommy is in my opinion one of the best players in the world, he should be up at the top."

Taking on another Swede in the semis, Ryderstedt faces 2002 Australian Open champion Thomas Johansson, who overcame a foot injury to beat Romanian third seed Andre Pavel, 7-6, 7-5. *Reuters*

Quezon keeps URBL semis hopes burning

SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga—The Quezon Province Huskers held steadier down the stretch to thwart home crowd favorite Harbour Centre-Pampanga, 103-94, yesterday to keep their semifinal hopes alive in the United Regional Basketball League (URBL) at the University of the Assumption here.

It was the highest-scoring game so far in the league. New recruit Egay Echavez, who topped with 21 points, including four triples, delivered the crucial plays as the Huskers now joined the Ilocos Sur Snipers in third place toting similar 2-3 cards.

STANDINGS	W	L
M. Lhuillier	7	0
Harbour Centre	4	3
Quezon Coco Huskers	2	4
Ilocos Sur Snipers	2	4
Lactovitale	1	5

Game Friday
(*Bogo, Cebu*)
Don Celestino Martinez Coliseum
5 p.m.—Lactovitale-Cebu Province vs M. Lhuillier-Cebu City

Harbour Centre absorbed its second straight setback but remained in solo second spot with a 4-3 card behind undefeated M. Lhuillier-Cebu City (7-0).

Echavez hit three of those triples in the third period as the Huskers pulled away, 83-71. But with loud cheers from the jam-packed crowd, Harbour Centre fought back behind Marvin Yambao and Pet Duyag to threaten at 91-94 with 1:16 left.

Jojo Manalo had a stellar debut in the league backed by Lactovitale and adidas as he topscored Harbour Centre with 23, but was limited to only seven in the second half due to early foul trouble.

After the Halloween break, URBL action continues on Nov. 5 with Lactovitale-Cebu Province (1-5) fighting for survival against M. Lhuillier at the Don Celestino Martinez Coliseum in Bogo, Cebu.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Coseteng firms up hold of lead

HAVOLINE Racing Team's star driver Jody Coseteng strengthened his hold on the lead of the premier N1 division after the 11th and 12th rounds of the Philippine National Touring Car Championship at the Batangas Racing Circuit in Rosario, Batangas.

Coseteng, a four-time Driver of the Year, scored two runner-up finishes to pull away from his close pursuers Dominic Bon and Rey Reyes in the race for the centerpiece N1 crown.

He earned 24 points after the two races to boost his total to 115 points, 10 ahead of second-leading Bon (105) and 11 up on Reyes (104). Coseteng, who had the fastest lap-time of 1:48.901 in the fifth lap of the final heat, clocked 29:09.378 after 12 laps.

Coseteng said he is saving his best for the last in the 13th and 14th rounds in December. "I want to end my campaign on a winning note," said Coseteng.

COSETENG

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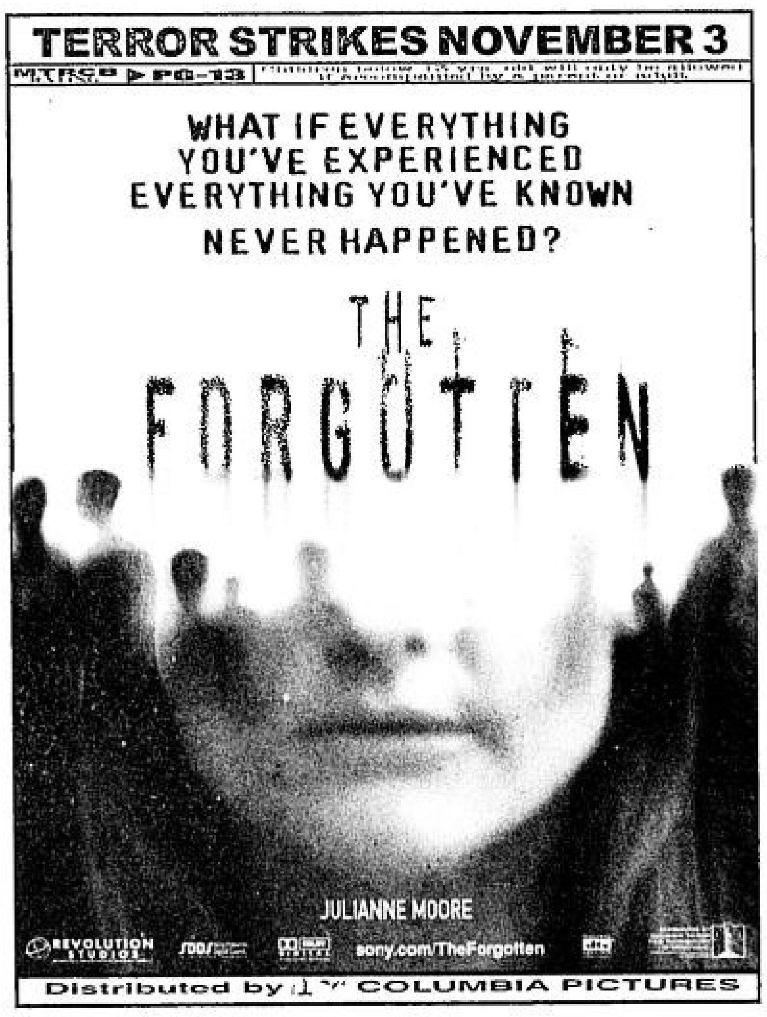

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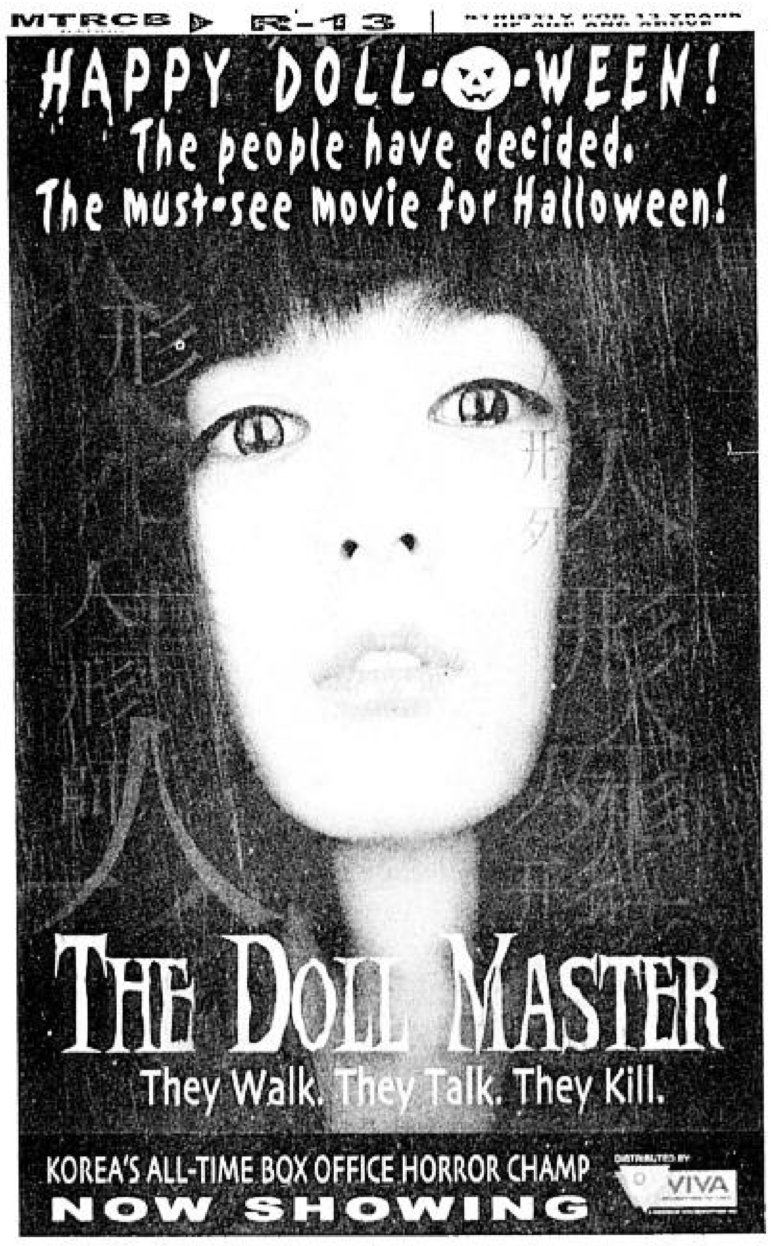

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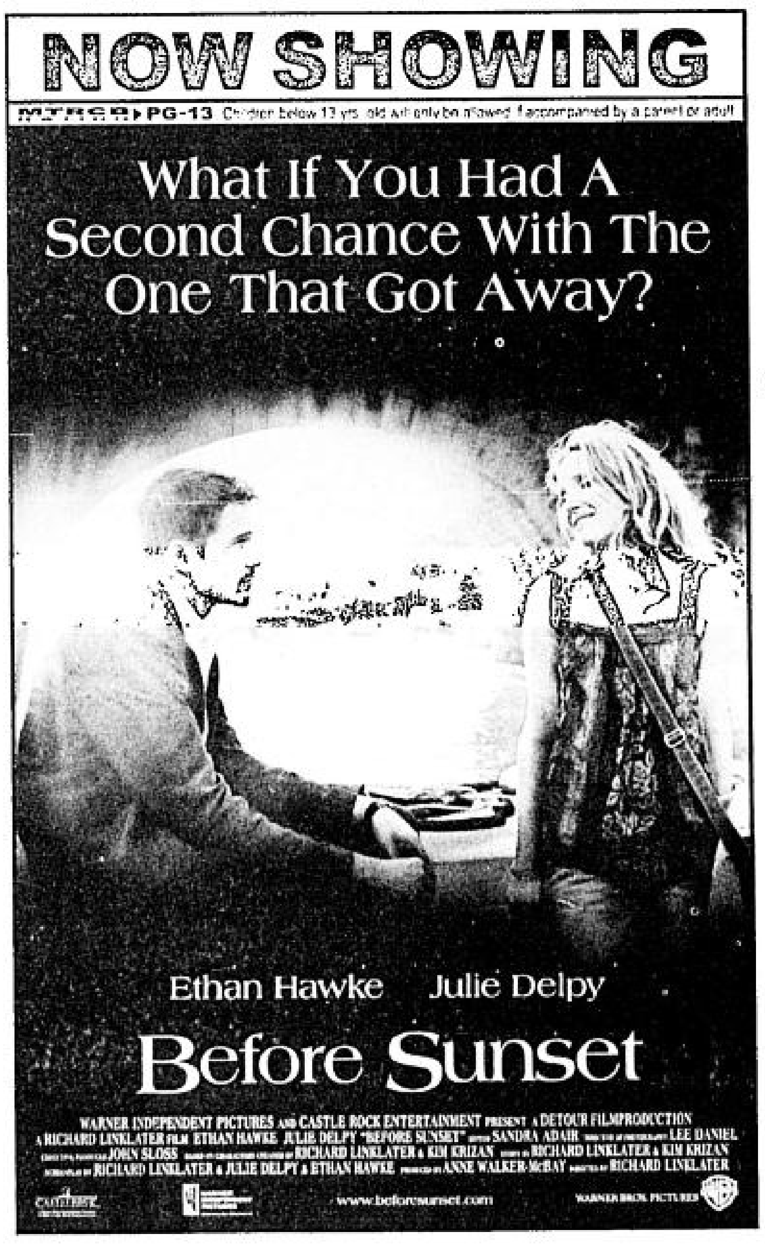

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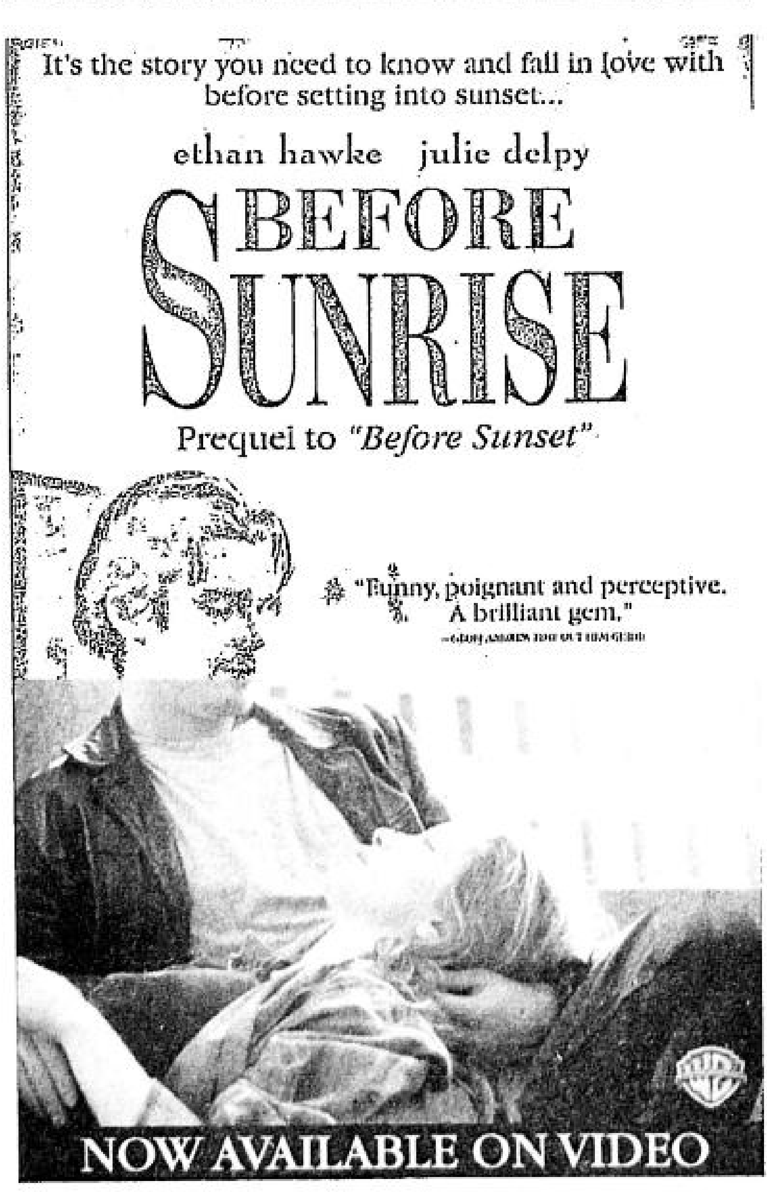

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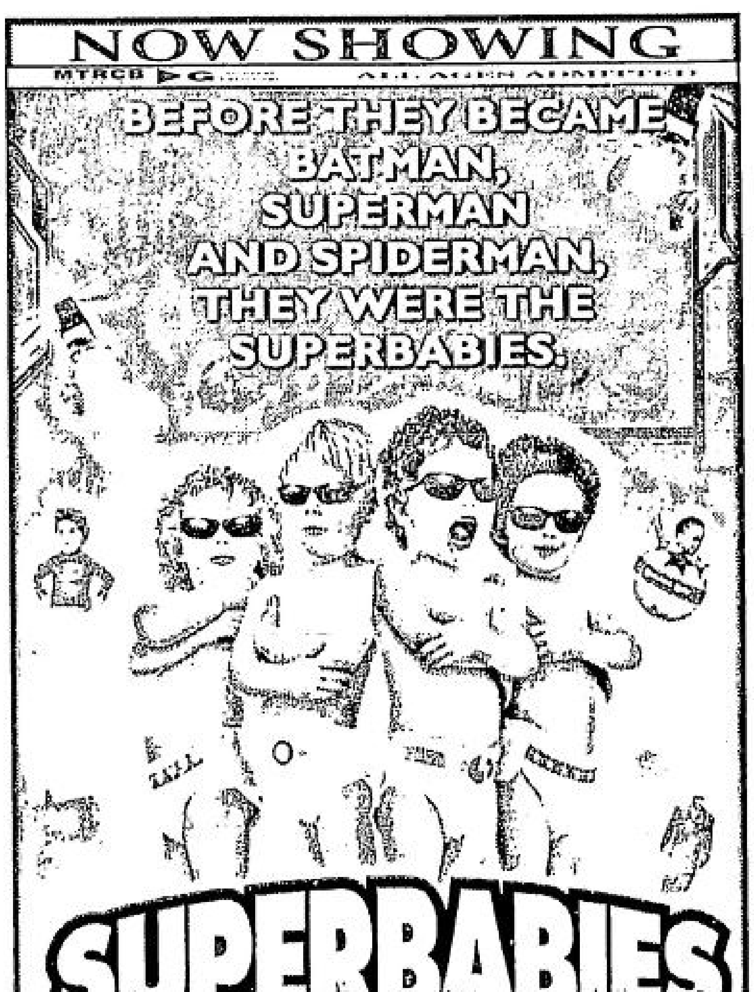

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SUPERBABIES
BABY GENIUSES 2

Mike Arroyo's support sought for Gerry fight

By Salven L. Lagumbay

ORGANIZERS of Gerry Peñalosa's fight for the WBF crown are seeking the support of First Gentleman Mike Arroyo.

The 32-year-old Peñalosa guns for the vacant World Boxing Foundation superfly title when he takes on undefeated Thai Bangsaen Sithpraprom on Nov. 27 at the Casino Filipino in Parañaque.

Promoter Gabriel "Bebot" Elorde Jr., son of the legendary Flash Elorde, said Filipinos should rally behind this laudable sporting event.

"*Kailangan talaga natin ang* support *ni* First Gentleman, *alam ko malapit sa puso niya ang boksing, at naimbitahan ko na rin siya nuong laban ni* Pacquiao *sa* Luneta," Elorde said.

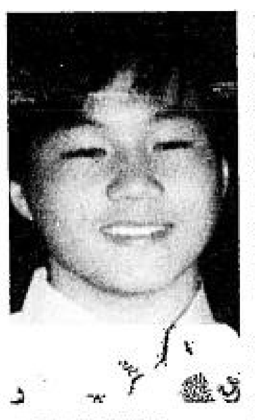
The undercard of the event, for the benefit of St. Rita Orphanage, will also feature three WBF International bouts.

The southpaw Peñalosa (47-5-2, 32 KO's), is hot on the comeback trail and has indicated that, should he win the WBF crown, his next move would be to call out the reigning champions of the WBC, WBA, IBF and WBO for a planned unification bout.

Leon Panoncillo, chair of the World Boxing Organization Asia-Pacific, had earlier hinted that should Peñalosa win the WBF crown on Nov. 27, he would try to arrange a possible unification bout with Hernandez or a grudge rematch with WBO bantam champ Ratanachai Vorapin, whom Peñalosa had knocked out in their first encounter.

San Andres competes in Macau event today

REVTEX standout rider Kenneth San Andres faces the biggest challenge yet of his colorful career when he pits guts and skills with Asia's best in the centerpiece Expert 125cc category of the FIM-Asia Motocross Championship's Round 4 in Macau, China, today.



SAN ANDRES

San Andres is dipping his hat in the Pro Open category for the first time in the FIM motocross festival against the region's greatest bikers at that, but his father and coach Jun-Jun Andres says his son welcomes the challenge.

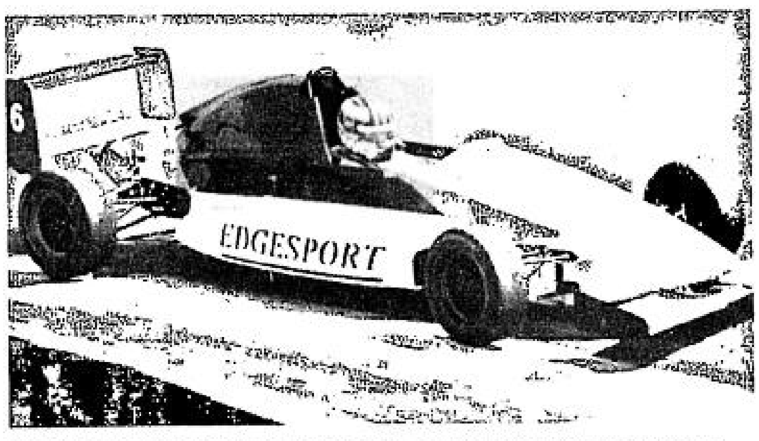
"I am amazed because he is even excited about his golden chance. *Gusto talaga niya,*" said Jun-Jun. "He probably realizes that this is his best opportunity to hone his talents to the fullest. If he wants to be the best, he has to ride with the best."

The best, of course, includes FIM Asia-Pacific defending champion Glenn Aguilar and Revtex daredevil Bebet Aguilar—San Andres' teammates, who will be with him pitting their talent with the world's top riders from China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, India, Mongolia, Guam and the USA.

The three Caltex Revtex mainstays were chosen by the National Motorcycle Sports and Safety Association (Namssa) on the strength of their showing in the Camel Supercross. Joining the three to Macau is Jerrick Mitra, also of Revtex.

Aside from Aguilar and Dela Cruz, San Andres, who is backed by JBS Motorcycle Shop, KTM, Oakley, HJC Helmet, Renthal, Fox, UFO and Sukida Motorcycles, also has to contend with current FIM leader Tadazaku Ohtsuka of Japan and Aep Dadang of Indonesia.

San Andres has stayed fit and sharp for the coming Macau race not just through practice but in actual competitions locally.



FORMULA TOYOTA CHAMP: Edgesport driver Ivan Carapiet, driving for Hanjin Shipping, MOF Sagawa Express, Senator Lines and Coca Cola, scored crucial victories last weekend at the Batangas Racing Circuit to top the 2004 Formula Toyota Series championship, the penultimate leg of the 2004 PCSO Grand Prix.

Bukidnon ends football fiesta with 'Danny Cup'

THE BUKIDNON Football Association (BUFA) recently ended its Red Ribbon Football Fiesta by staging a one-day football festival named after Danny Moran, president of the Red Ribbon Bakeshop.

The "Danny Cup" was a culmination event staged at the Phillips pitch in Del Monte Plantation, Bukidnon.

Champions in various age levels were Central Mindanao University (6-8 years old), Plantation Elementary School (9-10), Camp 14 FC (11-12) and James M. Crawford United (13-14 years old).

The event was organized by BUFA, headed by Mon Manlunas, and was supported by Marco Lorenzo, Senior VP for Mindanao operations of Del Monte Philippines.

The Red Ribbon Football Fiesta is the official "Under-14" tournament of the Philippine Football Federation.

PAGUNSAN: Brilliant recovery from double-bogey 6 on 13th hole

Juvic shoots 70, but RP slips in World Amateur

JUVIC Pagunsan battled back from a double bogey six on No. 13 yesterday to churn out a two-under 70, but he did not get enough help as the Philippines slipped into a tie for 25th place in the World Amateur Golf championships.

The long-hitting ace actually dropped four strokes in a three-hole span at Rio Mar's tough River Course in Rio Grande, Puelto Rico, with bogeys sandwiching that double as he checked out with a 37 after a 33 in his first nine.

Artemio Murakami and Michael Bibat both struggled with 78s, and the Philippines, from one-under at the start of the round and an 18th place tie, is now at three-over 291 and way out of the pace still being set by the United States.

The Americans, who are looking to win the Eisenhower Trophy for the third straight year, got a 67 from Ryan Moore and a 69 from Spencer Levin for a 268 aggregate, 20-under and eight strokes ahead of second-placed Spain.

Wales, Switzerland and Sweden are tied for third spot with nine-under cards and from the way things stand and with the support crew not responding for Pagunsan, a repeat of a best-ever third place finish seems out of sight for the Philippines.

Pagunsan, a member of that record-setting team in Malaysia in 2002, birdied Nos. 2, 4, 5 and 8 in the front side, giving back a stroke on the third. He got back to four-under with another birdie on 11 before that horrid stretch.

The Canlubang ace in the PAL Interclub has a five-under total, the bulk of his score coming on the par-5s, all of which he birdied yesterday and three of the four in the first round.

Murakami had two birdies, two doubles and four bogeys, while Bibat, who won the Singapore Amateur last month, had a 42 in his final nine holes after a bogey on 16, a double on 17 and a triple bogey 8 on No. 11.

Musong R. Castillo

Korean lady tandem rules Sherwood Chairman's Cup

LADY golfers Sung Shin Lee and Kyung Roh scored a combined 140 points to rule the third Chairman's Cup at the plush Sherwood Hills Golf and Country Club in Trece Martires, Cavite.

That 140 via the 2-man team aggregate scoring format gave Lee (69) and Roh (71) the overall championship in the one-day tournament sponsored by Globe Platinum, Golforce Inc., Information Professionals Inc., and MRT Dev. Co.

Lee and Roh received their championship trophy from club chair Robert John Sobrepeña.

Asia Pacific Golf Corp., Club Leisure, Coppertone, Custom Clubmakers, Federal Management, Hyatt Regency Manila, Isuzu Phils., Industrial Waste Systems, Kia Motors, Kork Inc., Pfizer and Twinings Tea were the other sponsors.

Shin Young Kang and Gook Sa Han came up with 78 and 68, respectively, for 140 points to beat via countback the team of Nini Samaniego and Arlette Dizon in Division 1.

Andy Morales and Manny Velaso collected 140 points (72-68) to capture the Division 2 honors. Joseh Sison and Rene Floro was second with 143 (74-69).

SOBREPEÑA

Dragon rowers capture 2 golds

MIANYANG, China —The Philippine dragon boat racing team capped its two-week Chinese invasion by capturing two gold and one silver medals in the two-day 5th Asian championships which ended here Thursday.

The Filipinos ruled the 250-meter and 500-m races, both times at the expense of the powerful Guandong, China squad, to maintain their spectacular winning run in international competitions.

The Filipinos clocked 48.24 seconds in the 250 and one minute 34.44 seconds in the 500.

The Chinese took the silver with times of 48.72 seconds and 1:36.77. Guest team Australia was third in the 250 in 53.06 seconds, while Macao grabbed the bronze in the 500 in 1:41.61.

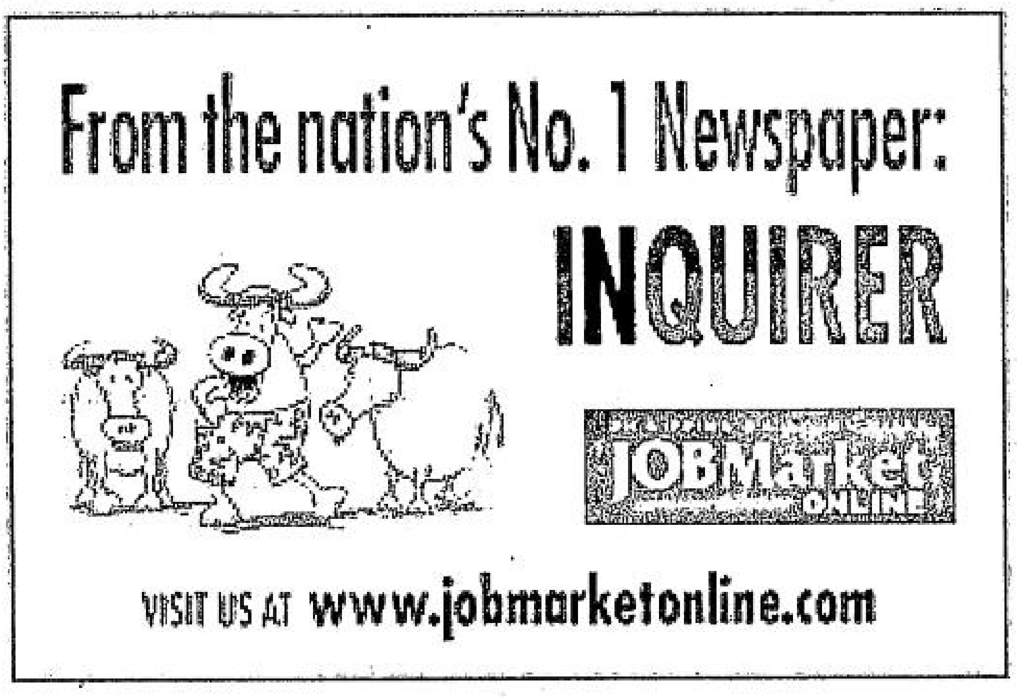
The Chinese avenged their twin losses by beating the Filipinos in the 1000-m race. The Guandong rowers capitalized on the standing-row position, a skill the Chinese paddlers initiated, to win in 3 minutes 21.12 seconds.

The Filipinos took the silver in 3:25.21, while the Aussies settled for the bronze in 3:32.93.

Other countries which competed in the Asian event were Hong Kong, Malaysia, Japan and Chinese Taipei.

The Filipinos became instant celebrities here when they were featured in the front pages of local dailies.

"It was a big reward for their hard work," said RP coach Nestor Ilagan of his team's fine showing.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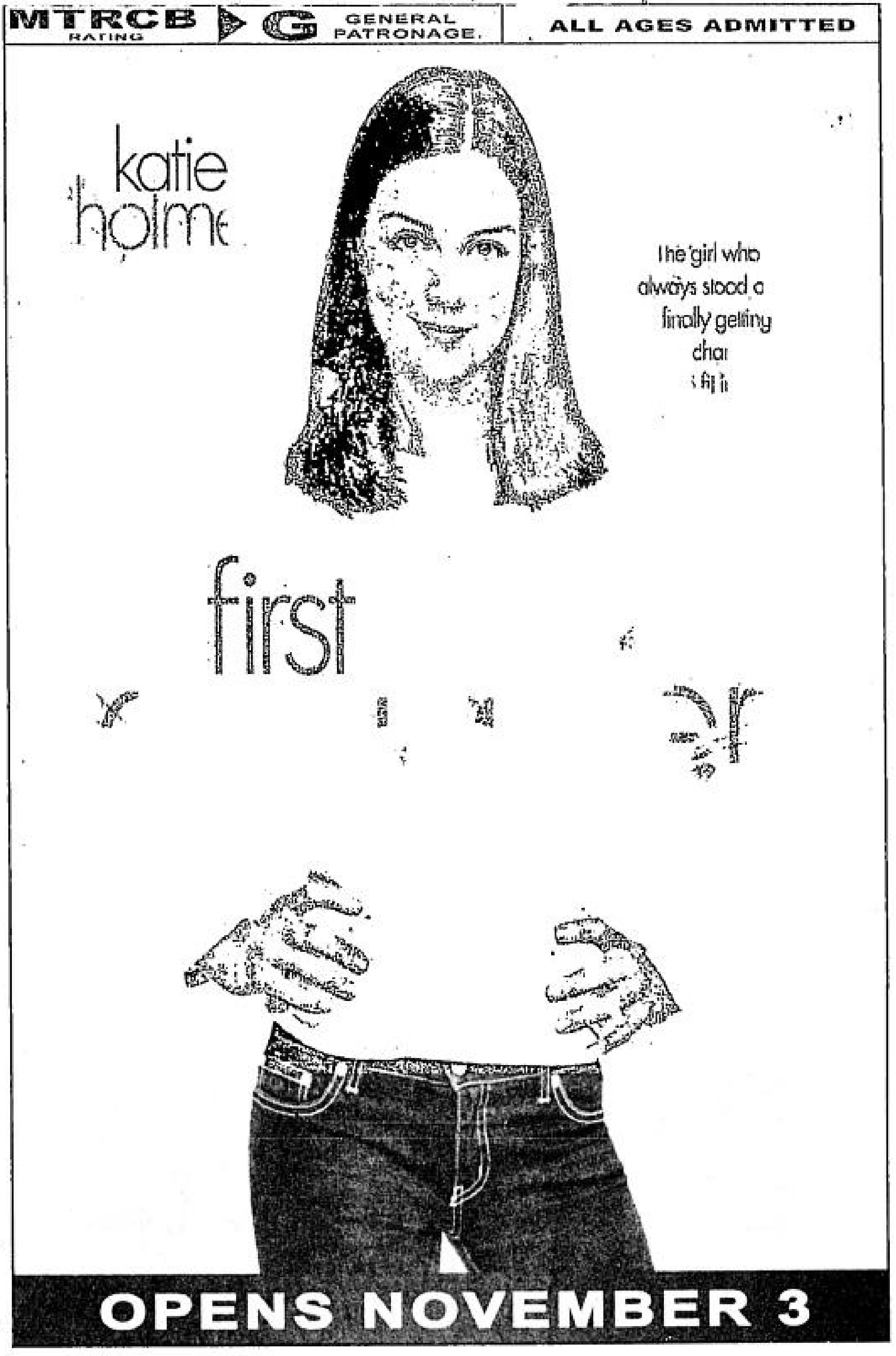
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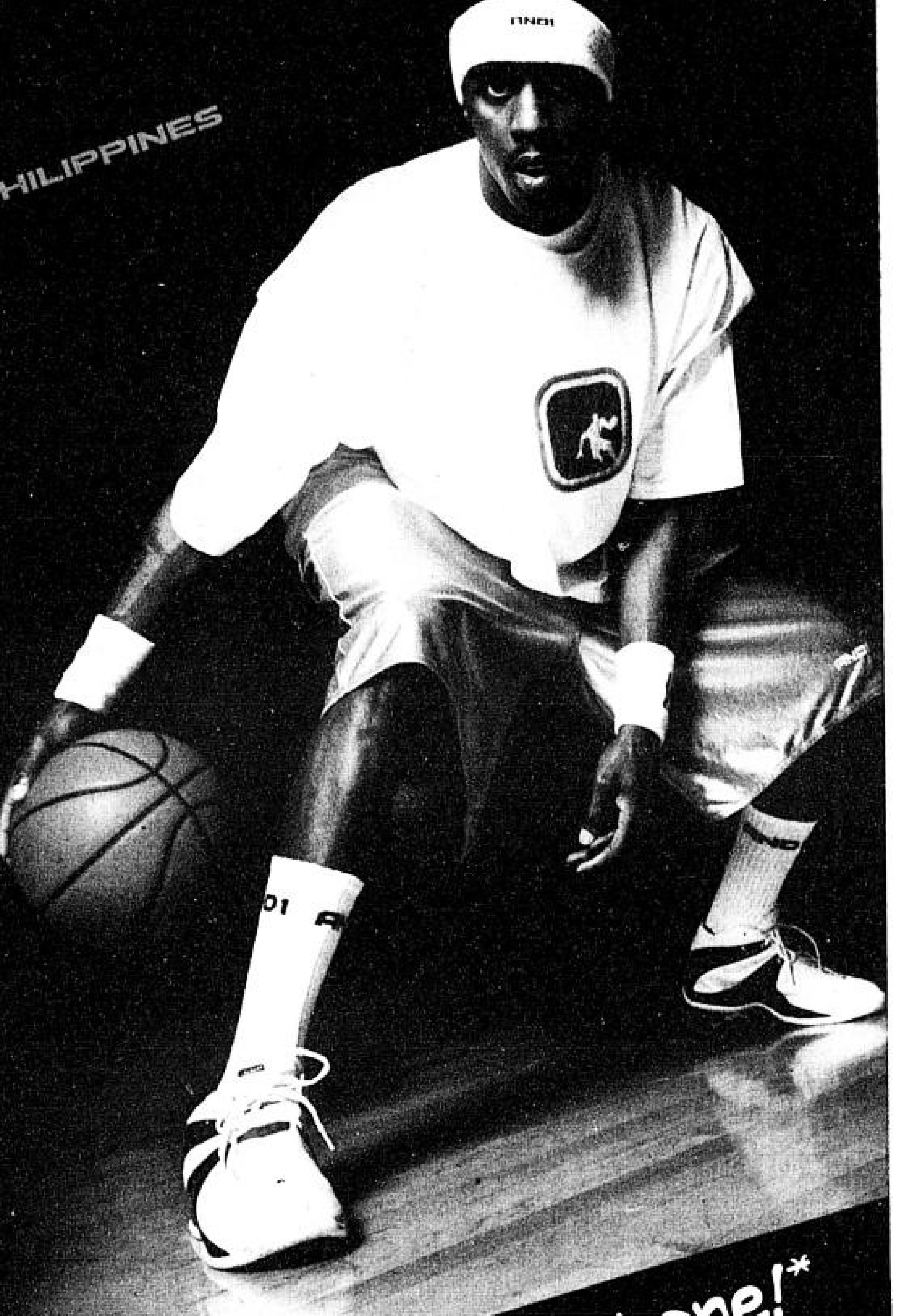

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ADDICT Mobile-Ateneo's Paolo Bugia tries to dribble past two Air Philippines defenders. PDI PHOTO

PBL Open takes new twists, baffling turns

THIS early, the 2004 PBL Open Championship has taken some surprising turns. And interestingly among them is the contrasting start of last conference's finalists.

Defending champion Magnolia Ice Cream-FEU took the top spot with an early 2-0 lead, while losing finalist Welcoat Paintmasters occupied the bottom of the standings after absorbing two straight losses.

"I just told my players to have a proper mind-set and they did," said coach Koy Banal after the Ice Cream Wizards crushed Toyota Otis-Letran, 87-61, last Thursday.

The recent match-up, which was pretty much settled in the first half, was an easy follow-up to the Wizards' tough opening victory against the vastly improved Montaña Jewels.

The Wizards outlasted the Jewels, 82-75, in double overtime.

Although Arwind Santos, the reigning Most Valuable Player of the PBL and the UAAP, is the focal point of Magnolia's game plan, the telling factor is the team's balanced offense.

The Morayta contingent can always turn to a number of key players like Unity Cup Finals MVP Warren Ybañez, Dennis Miranda, RJ Rizada, Mark Isip, Gerard Jones and Cesar Catli.

While Welcoat similarly boasts an impressive roster, coach Caloy Garcia is now left baffled with their poor start.

The Paintmasters, the team that bagged five titles in eight finals appearances, were favored to win two in a row. But instead, they lost both games in double digits.

Welcoat bowed to the younger Toyota Otis-Letran, 63-52, on opening day and again tumbled with a 70-59 defeat against Montaña recently.

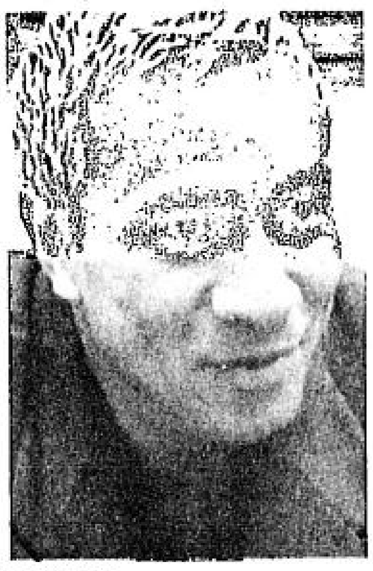
It's quite a disappointment for this pre-season favorite bannered by veterans Chester Tolomia, Marvin Ortiguerra, Jay-R Reyes and former NCAA MVP Leo Najorda.

The team's record is also a debut spoiler for Welcoat's highly touted rookie, the 6-foot-7 Fil-Am Anthony Washington, who averaged 14.5 points in his first two games.

On Tuesday, this multititled squad again hopes to reverse its fortune. But it apparently won't come easy as Welcoat tries to score its first win by facing its Finals foe, Magnolia-FEU. *Jasmine W. Payo*

Eala expects Asi case versus PBA resolved soonest

By June Navarro



TAULAVA PDI PHOTO

EALA PDI PHOTO

PBA Commissioner Noli Eala expects the lawsuit filed by Asi Taulava against league officials to be resolved within the next few days.

Eala said the Quezon City Regional Trial Court may reach a decision as early as Tuesday based on the progress of the hearing on Taulava's P1.2-million damage suit filed recently.

Taulava filed the case Thursday last week against Eala and the PBA Board of Governors after the Talk 'N Text slotman was suspended by the league on the strength of a Department of Justice ruling.

"Our counsel is done cross-examining him (Taulava) and their counsel has already cross-examined me. So I believe it (case) will be up for decision not later than Tuesday," said Eala.

"I think his counsels are in a hurry to get all these done and over with," he added.

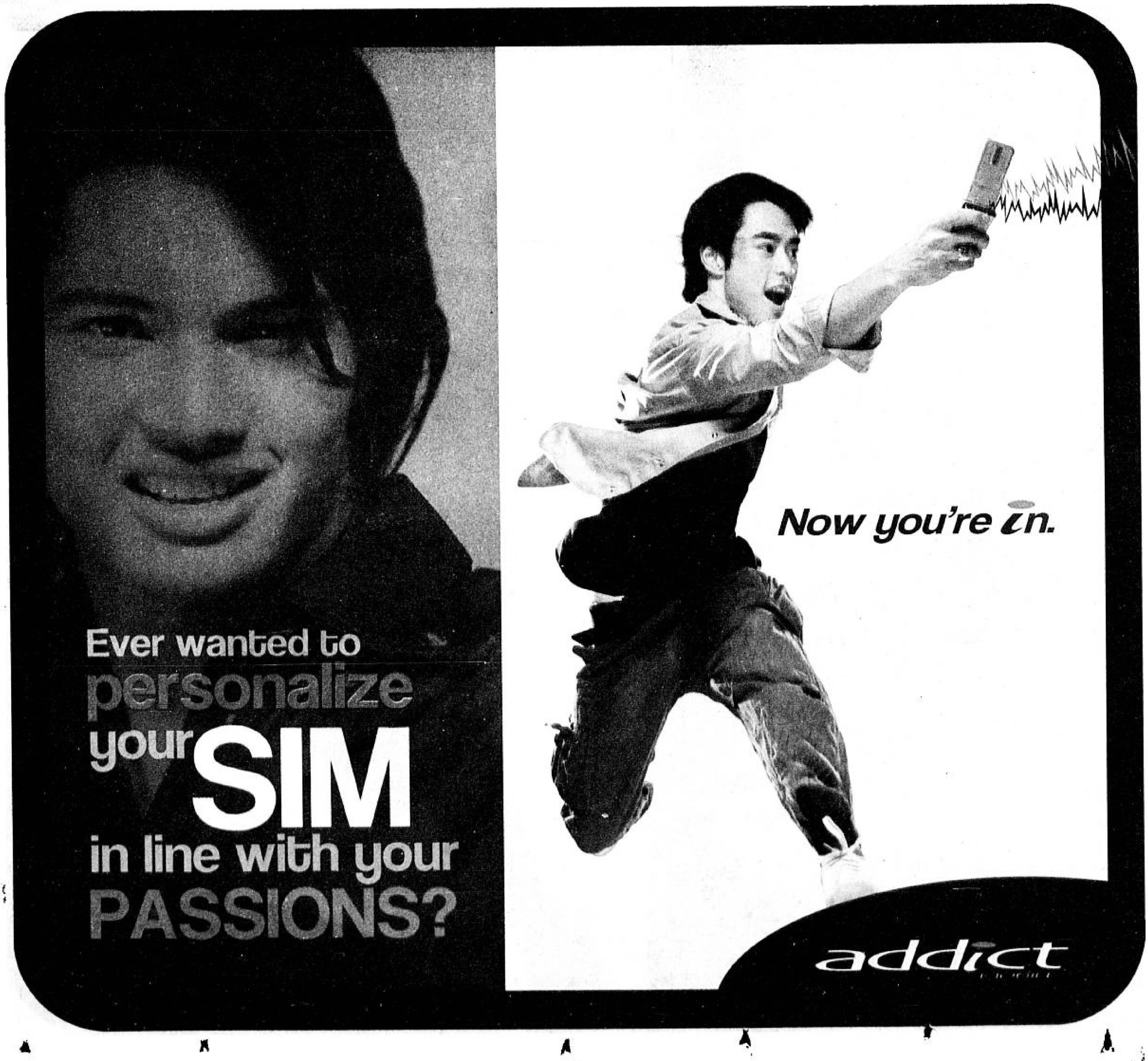
Eala, however, declined to comment on the merits of the case. "It's up for the court to decide," he said.

Although Taulava wasn't included in the DOJ deportation order against Red Bull's Davonn Harp, Mick Pennisi and John Ordonio, Rudy Hatfield of Coca-Cola and Ginebra's Alex Crisano, the Justice department found last year's MVP guilty of faking his citizenship documents.

The DOJ, however, can't pursue Taulava's deportation yet as the 6-foot-9 former national player had secured a court injunction even before the "Fil-shams" hunt intensified again this year.

Taulava, who is asking for P500,000 for actual damages, P500,000 for moral damages and P200,000 for attorney's fees, claimed Eala and the PBA board failed to exercise due process and honor his constitutional rights.

Even without Taulava, Talk 'N Text has managed to post a league-leading 5-win, 1-loss record, dropping its last game to Barangay Ginebra, 91-80, on Wednesday.



Shaq, Kobe wage war

LOS ANGELES—Unable to set aside their differences in Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal will now be facing new challenges with teams on either side of the continent.

The NBA superstars will be eager to show who is the better team leader as for the first time in nine years the former Laker teammates will not even compete in the same conference.

Former Laker coach Phil Jackson added fuel to Shaq-Kobe rivalry when he came out earlier this month with his tell-all book, "The Last Season."

Jackson painted Bryant as a selfish player who undercut the coach's authority and tried to drive a wedge between the players in the locker room.

Jackson's book revealed the extent of the bitterness between Bryant and O'Neal, who ended up being shipped to the Miami Heat in the off-season.

The trade set the stage for what has become the most anticipated game of the NBA season on Dec. 25 when Bryant's Lakers face the Heat in Los Angeles.

For eight years O'Neal and Bryant combined to become the most feared duo in the NBA, leading the Lakers to three consecutive championships (2000-2002).

Most NBA watchers feel O'Neal will have an easier time getting used to his new surroundings and teammates in Miami than Bryant will have in adjusting to life on the court without the giant center.

O'Neal, considered one of the most dominant inside players in history, has a new perimeter sidekick in Dwyane Wade, who averaged 16.1 points per game in his first season last year.

Indiana Pacers coach Rick Carlisle says the 22-year-old Wade could play a similar role to what Bryant played with O'Neal.

"It looks like it could be another Kobe-Shaq type of situation," Carlisle said. "The dominant inside player and the great perimeter guy that could also do things around the basket and in the post."

Miami coach Stan Van Gundy thinks O'Neal and Wade are a good fit.

"People are saying he will not have the lanes to the basket because Shaq clogs up the middle," Van Gundy said.

Bryant chose to remain in Los Angeles, but like O'Neal he will have a different starting cast around him.

Lakers new coach Rudy Tomjanovich defends Bryant saying he has seen none of the disparaging characteristics that Jackson talks about in his book.

He likes to describe Bryant, who signed a seven-year, $136-million contract in July, as "Jordanesque." *AFP*

O'NEAL: Most dominant AP

BRYANT: Jordanesque AP

Rizal pool tapped anew for SEAG '05

By Marc Anthony Reyes

IT WILL still be the old Rizal Memorial pool for swimming and diving as the Philippine Southeast Asian Games Organizing Committee finalized yesterday the venues for the meet set Nov. 27 to Dec. 5, 2005.

While Cebu and Bacolod will host several sports, many events have also been scheduled out of Metro Manila, putting added burden on transportation requirement for the 11-nation meet Philsoc expects to run on an P800-million budget.

Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain said there will be a few venues that need renovation, mainly those inside the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex, but added most of them are ready for competition.

A big slice of the budget for renovation will go to refurbishing the Rizal pool. However, water polo will be held at the Kagitingan Wellness Center inside Fort Bonifacio.

"The thrust is to identify venues with the least cost in renovation," said Philsoc chair Obet Pagdanganan, who added he has already sought the support of the Department of Public Works and Highways in refurbishing the facilities.

The 70-year-old Rizal complex will also host athletics, baseball, softball, wrestling, lawn tennis and gymnastics, while Casino Filipino in Parañaque will stage arnis, body building and muay thai.

La Mesa Dam in Quezon City will be the site of canoeing/kayaking, rowing and dragonboat racing, Philsports will host badminton, table tennis, women's football and fencing. Basketball will be at Makati Coliseum, billiards and snookers at the Cuneta Astrodome and bowling either at Pearl Plaza in Parañaque or Green Valley in Pasig.

Cycling's track races will be held at the Amoranto velodrome, wushu will be at the GSIS gym, squash at the Makati Sports Club and shooting at Muntinlupa for skeet and trap, Marines range for pistol and PNPA range for practical shooting.

Scheduled out of Metro Manila are chess (Tagaytay), equestrian (Carmona Riding School) and golf (Riviera in Silang, Cavite).

Bacolod will host boxing at the La Salle Bacolod gym, and men's football at the La Salle Bacolod grounds and Panaad sports complex. Volleyball will be at the Bacolod Sports Center.

Budget OK, says Philsoc

THERE should be no problem with the 2005 Southeast Asian Games budget after all.

That is after Malacañang instructed Philippine SEAG Organizing Committee (Philsoc) chair Obet Pagdanganan to negotiate with the government-owned and controlled corporations and the government financing institutions for their sponsorship of the biennial Games.

"With this kind of attention we're getting from President Arroyo, we can safely say that we won't see any problem in preparing for the SEA Games," said Pagdanganan.

Foremost in the list are Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. and Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, which are long-time benefactors of sporting events.

Pagdanganan said a series of meetings with the GOCCs and GFIs are scheduled after the holidays to determine the extent of their support for the Games whose budget is expected to reach P800 million. *Marc Reyes*

Pastor races borrowed car to victories

ROSARIO, Batangas—Enzo Pastor, racing a borrowed car, beat veteran Jody Coseteng twice to rule the penultimate leg of the 2004 PCSO Grand Prix at the Batangas Racing Circuit here recently.

Pastor of Speedwelle Racing shone in the car lent to him by teammate Ferdie Ong, who was generous enough to beg off from the National Touring Car Championship races sanctioned by the Automobile Association of the Philippines (AAP).

Though not too familiar with the car's setup, Pastor used his skills to dominate the morning and afternoon races.

He clocked 30:54.700 in the tightly contested morning race and won over SMB Strong Ice-Caltex Havoline's Coseteng by a mere 1.722 seconds.

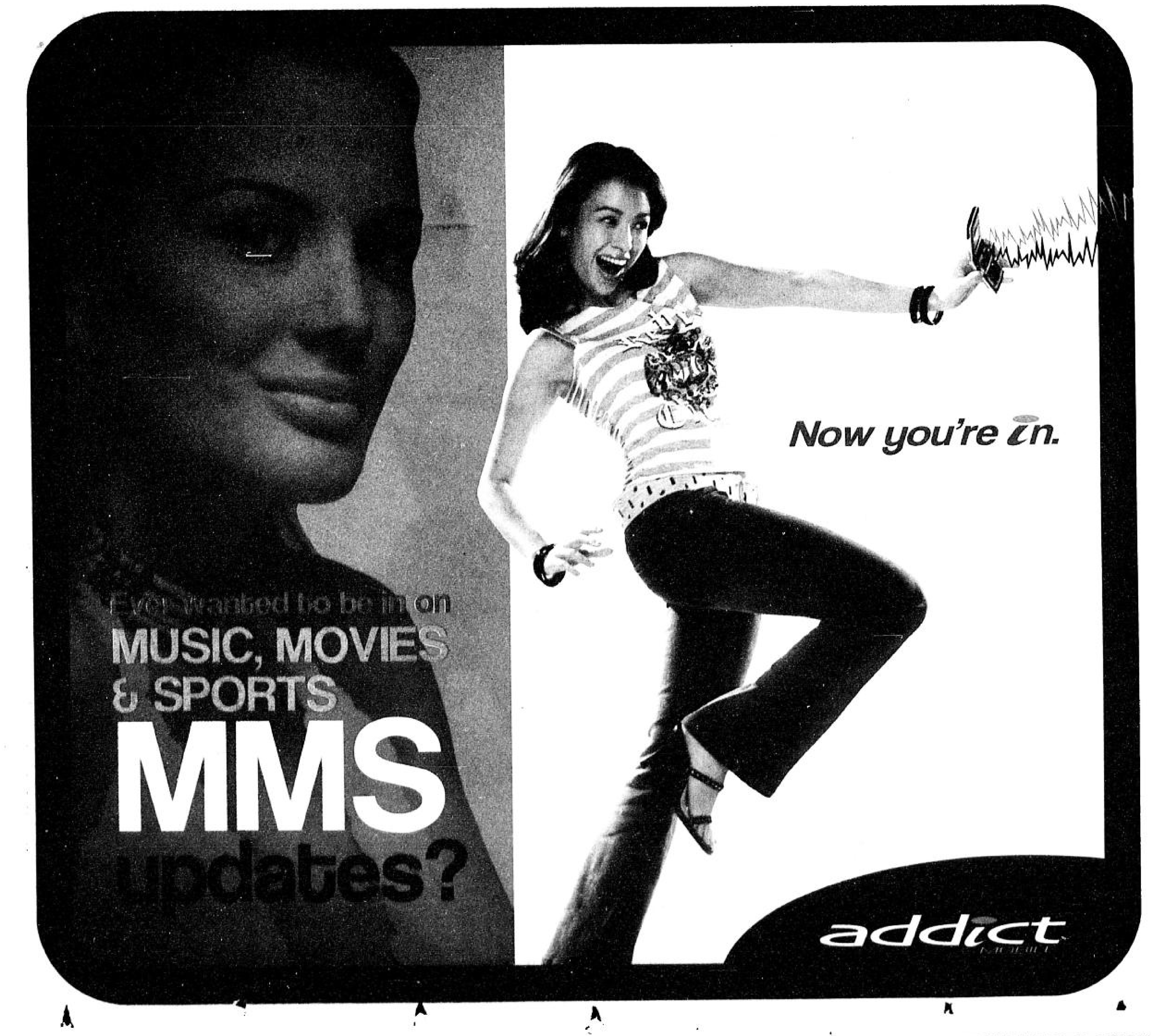
Privateer Dominic Bon finished third while Philip Alvendia of Malayan Insurance and Rey Reyes of Autoklasse-Tropical Ice wound up fourth and fifth, respectively.

In the afternoon race, Coseteng took command early but yielded to Pastor in the third lap.

Pastor took the checkered flag with a quicker time of 29:03.693, a substantial 5.686 seconds ahead of Coseteng.

Reyes wound up third in the race followed by Bon and Alvendia.

Despite the setback, Coseteng remains on top in the overall race with 115 points.



₱1-million purse in national Milo marathon finals

CLOSE to a million in total cash prizes is up for grabs in the 28th National Milo Marathon finals slated Nov. 14 at the Quirino Grandstand.

Pat Goc Ong, Milo Events sports executive, said the male and female champions in the 42-kilometer event will get P75,000 each plus handsomely crafted trophies.

Runners-up in both divisions will also receive trophies and P50,000 each, with third place worth P30,000 and trophies.

Aside from the centerpiece event, prizes are also at stake in the 5K and 10K distances in this annual foot race held in partnership with Globe Handyphone, Adidas, Bayview Park Hotel, Cebu Pacific and the Department of Tourism.

A 3-km race for children 12 years old and below will also be on tap.

Special prizes for record breakers will also be given away, with P25,000 going to the first male runner who shatters the 2:20 barrier.

Breaking Eduardo Buenavista's long standing men's mark of 2:22:52 would mean P10,000, the same amount to be won by the first female participant who will better Christabel Martes' 2:53:58 record.

Side events like media run, sportswriting and photo contests, a biggest delegation for schools competition and a cheering and inter-school team competition will have a total of P102,000 in prizes.

Over 97,000 running enthusiasts and serious contenders have 'joined the prior 13 regional legs.

Registration is at the ground floor of the Vasquez Madrigal Plaza Bldg., at 51 Annapolis St. in Greenhills, San Juan. Deadline is on Nov. 10. Registration fees are P50 for the 3K run and P100 for the 5K and 10K runs.

Organizer Rudy Biscocho wants schools competing for the biggest delegation award to register early as only 8,000 race packets are allocated for the contest. Deadline for school entries is on Nov. 5.

What now, Red Sox?

Boston looks for meaning after ending 'curse'

BOSTON—It didn't take long to go from ecstatic to existential.

Having waited 86 years for a World Series victory, Bostonians found themselves on Thursday swirling with elation, but also scratching their heads.

What are Red Sox fans to do when the angst of being one of the world's greatest underdog is gone?

"I'm having trouble dealing with it," said Mike Andrews, who played second base for the Red Sox in 1967, when they lost to the Cardinals during one of their many close-but-no-cigar pennant races.

"You're just kind of caught saying 'what's next?'" said Andrews, who now oversees the Jimmy Fund, a cancer organization in Boston that is the team's principal charity.

"I don't want to say it's a letdown. But it's certainly something you let become part of your life and it's gone now, and we need to come up with something new."

The afterglow of the Red Sox's extraordinary World Series triumph over the St. Louis Cardinals has caught more than a few folks without their psychological sunblock.

"They're going to be heartbroken at not being heartbroken," said Leslie Epstein, a novelist who is chair of the creative writing department at Boston University and whose son, Theo, happens to be the Red Sox general manager. "It's not just a joke. That's what's made us unique. We were the Boston Red Sox that never could win."

For the next few days, of course, most fans will be reveling proudly, especially at a giant parade on Saturday that will wind from Fenway Park to City Hall and is expected to draw more than 3 million people.

And for some the victory can be seen as a harbinger that other miracles may come not just on the ballfield.

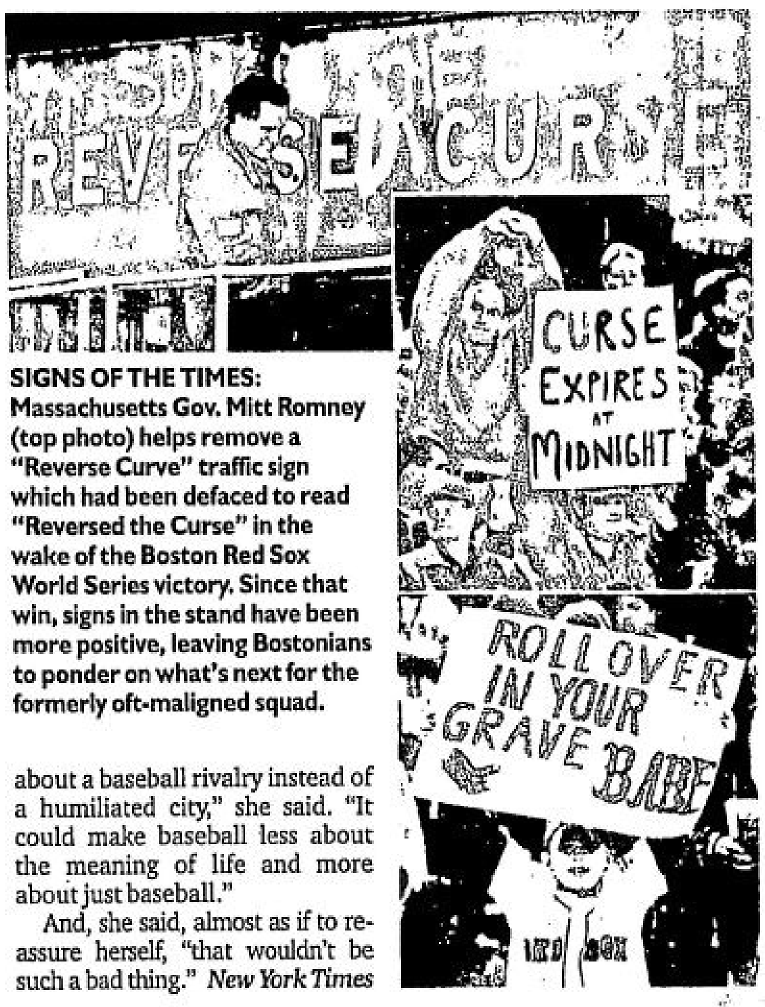
"Suddenly all things seem possible," said Samantha Power, a Pulitzer Prize-winning expert on genocide at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of government. "For those of us who live with lost causes, it's a very inspiring perspective shift."

But Power also recognizes that she and many others will never feel quite the same about the Red Sox and about baseball.

She sees a chance for a city to lighten up.

"Maybe it will just become about a baseball rivalry instead of a humiliated city," she said. "It could make baseball less about the meaning of life and more about just baseball."

And, she said, almost as if to reassure herself, "that wouldn't be such a bad thing." *New York Times*



SIGNS OF THE TIMES: Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney (top photo) helps remove a "Reverse Curve" traffic sign which had been defaced to read "Reversed the Curse" in the wake of the Boston Red Sox World Series victory. Since that win, signs in the stand have been more positive, leaving Bostonians to ponder on what's next for the formerly oft-maligned squad.

GRACEFUL: South Korea's Grace Park watches her drive on the third hole at the CJ Nine Bridges Classic. REUTERS

Travel agent suing cycling officials

By Marc Anthony Reyes

OFFICIALS of the Integrated Cycling Federation of the Philippines are under fire for failure to settle nearly P700,000 in plane tickets and hotel bookings during the 10th Asian Mountain Bike championships in Palawan last month.

Rolly Concepcion, owner of the RMC Travel Agency and father of former matinee idol Gabby Concepcion, claimed that because of the nonpayment, his agency suffered losses after Philippine Airlines blocked their access in bookings of flights and confiscated all their unsold tickets.

He has threatened to sue the cycling officials.

"Had RMC travel insisted to stick by the contract (that ICFP pay on or before the 20th of September 2004) then the Philippine contingent would have been left behind and not participated," said Concepcion, citing the contract he has forged with the ICFP officials that originally amounted to P1,160,000.

ICFP secretary general Mar Mendoza said they were not reneging on the agreement. He said they were still waiting for the reimbursement of funds from the Philippine Sports Commission.

However, Concepcion insisted that it was Mendoza and Jun Lomibao, a fellow official, who signed the contract and must therefore be the ones responsible for paying the total amount of P691,574.

"That is unfair and misleading, making RMC Travel believe that the funds are available (when it's not)," said Concepcion.

Mendoza said they had tried to convince Concepcion to give them time until his fellow signatory arrives from abroad next week.

Concepcion, on the other hand, said his agency has even advanced 14 tickets before the contract was finalized as an "act of good faith."

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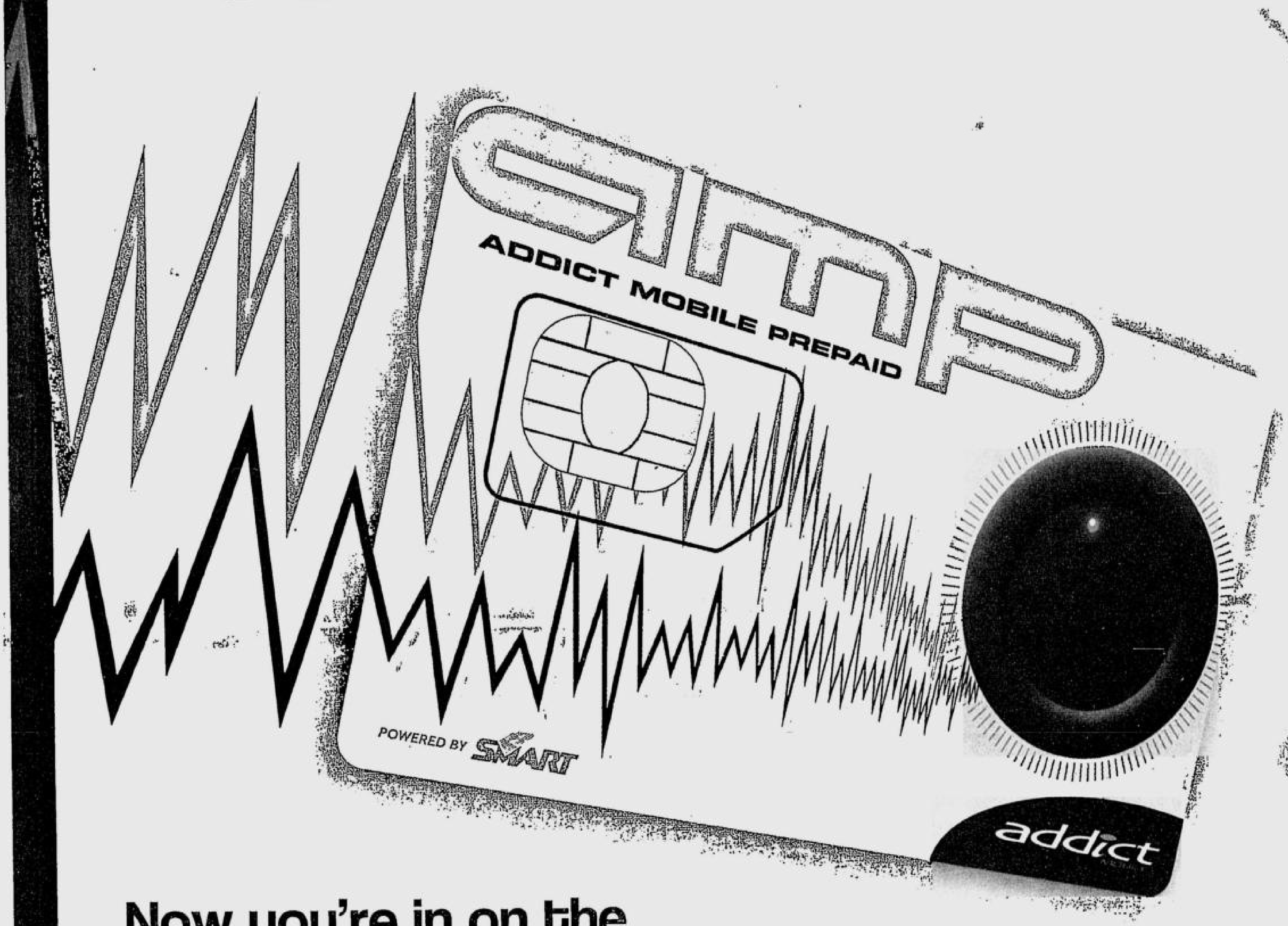

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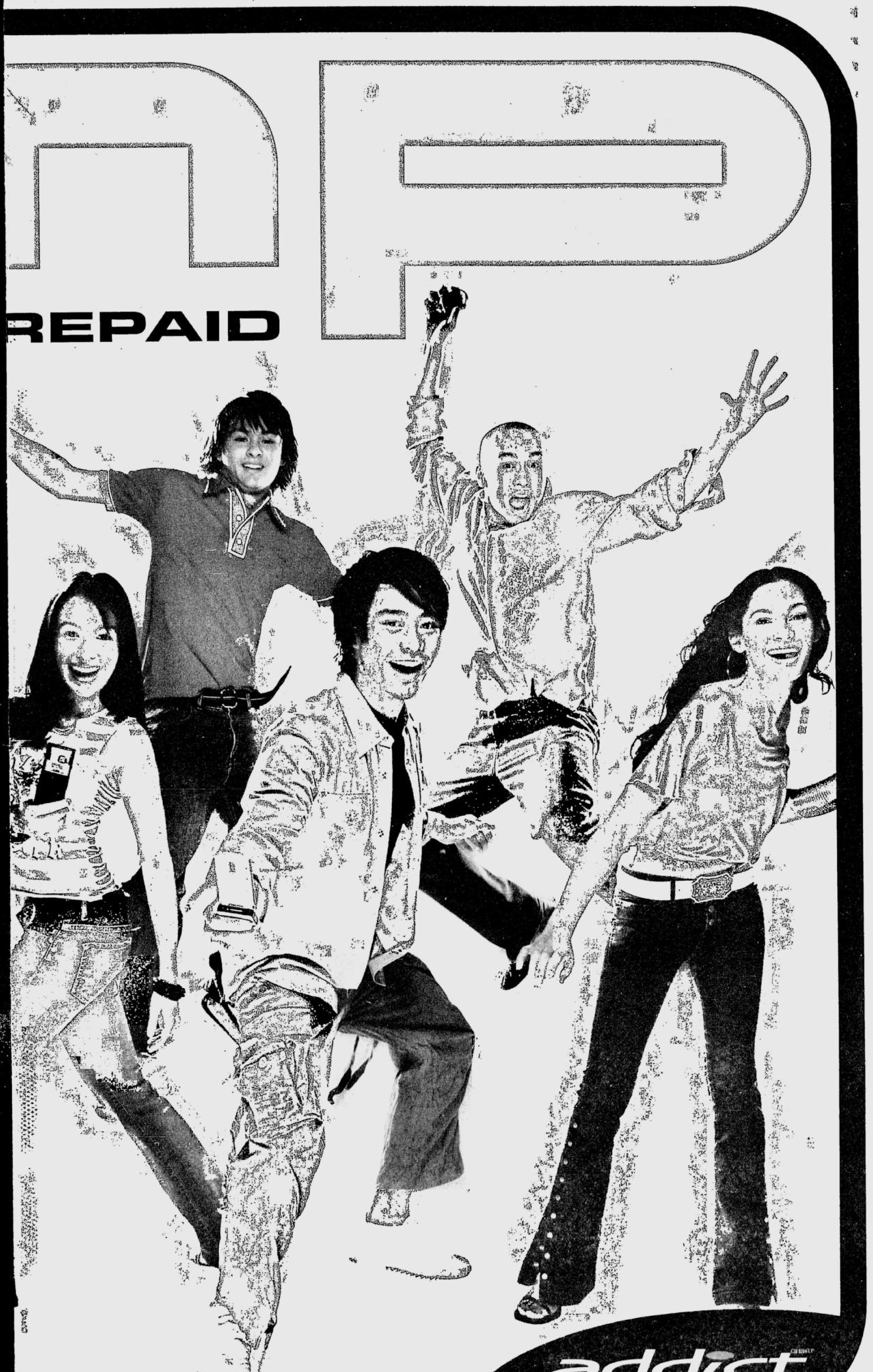
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Saragoza picks self up after letting RP down

By Musong R. Castillo

WITH two Philippine golf teams currently campaigning abroad, it's easy to understand why Boyet Saragoza was not considered to be on either one.

After shooting 82s in the final two rounds of the Singapore Amateur that literally cost the Philippines the team title, Saragoza was left out of national squads that are in Hong Kong and the World Amateurs in Puerto Rico.

Even Tommy Manotoc, usually very reserved and who accompanied Saragoza and eventual individual winner Michael Bibat in Singapore, chided his Canlubang ward for his foldup.

It was a stint to forget, but one that almost drove him mad and made him strive hard to make retribution come in so short a time.

The pint-sized former caddy at Davao's Apo course has won his final two starts, the first titles of his career that came in a three-week span.

After rallying to win the Samsung Championships, Saragoza humbled a tough field and solved the North Course's trying conditions to rule the Canlubang Amateurs on Friday by a mind-boggling 16 strokes.

And the win came after a change of driver and 11th hour adjustments on his swing made by Tony Arevalo, himself a former bagman who now acts as coach to Saragoza.

A glitch in the swing of the 31-year-old made Arevalo ask him to delay his downswing a little and keep his head down at impact for a longer follow through, elementary adjustments that resulted in the event's record score.

Saragoza totaled 271, 17-under, a score no one from the field came close to touching.

He shot rounds of 66, 68, 71 and 66, the only one in the field to shoot sub-par scores in all rounds and the only one who broke par in the final day, with the next best score, a 75, belonging to Korean second placer Kim Chang-hoi and national pool member Marvin Dumandan.

"What happened in Singapore was humiliating, because I let the country down," Saragoza said in Filipino. "I lost focus out there and I will not let that happen again."

"Of course, I would like to again play in an international event and make up for that. But the game of golf can be very unpredictable and you have to work hard to sustain your form."

Next up for Saragoza is a stint with either Canlubang or Calatagan in the Fil-Am in Baguio, a tournament he will prepare for starting this week.

He'll want to do well there, of course, if only to get another shot at a Philippine team stint.

SARAGOZA: Hoping for bigger things. PDI PHOTO

SAMSUNG CELEBRITY CLASSIC

Southwoods gets star-struck

By Jong Arcano

SHAPELY songbird Vernie Varga showed up late to tee. But nobody could stop her from boarding the cart and playing whatever holes were left to play.

Johnny Delgado and Edgar Mortiz certainly did not show up in "fighting form."

Unmindful of their rusty swings and, for some, their bulging waistlines, it was time to play golf for a horde of celebrities who found their way to Manila Southwoods yesterday for the first Samsung Celebrity Invitational Classic.

Even Gary Lising, undisputed pseudo golfer, was there puffing the cigarette for every bad shot that, yes, came too often.

There were just too many of them to count and the stars littered the course.

"This is just too overwhelming. I'm sure that the second one will even go bigger," said event organizer Kitchie Benedicto-Paulino, who pulled off the caper even on short notice.

Big name stars, most of them either too busy or too tired from a previous engagement, did come to join in the fun on the fairways.

Benedicto-Paulino's career in producing television shows is getting a second wind and part of the plan are specials on golf and sports in general.

And, if the huge production requirements seen at Southwoods were to be an indication, then KB Entertainment seems out to revive Kitchie's glory days.

Kitchie doesn't need to look too far to see the big promise.

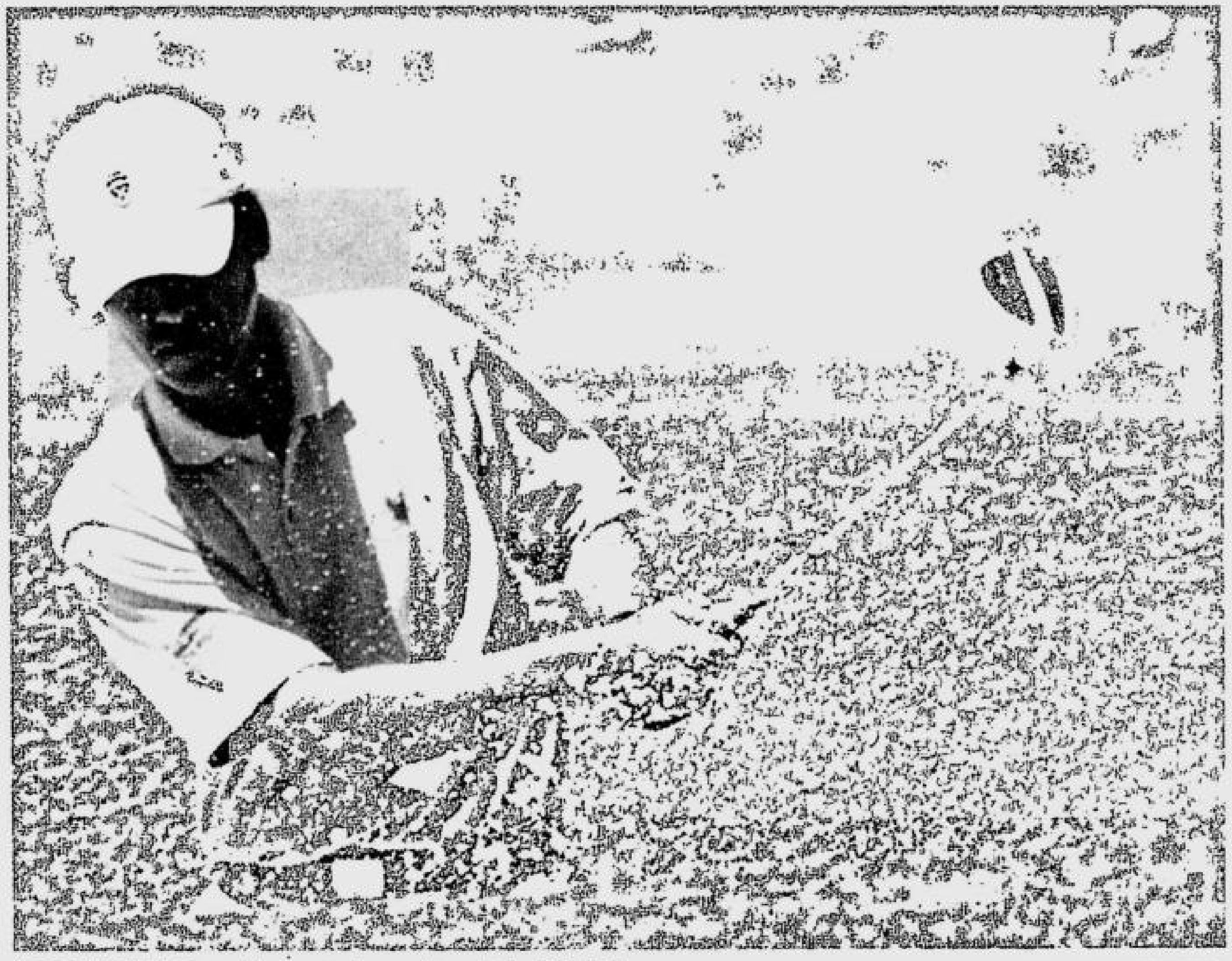
"We're getting back to golf again, *wala tayong trabaho*," joked Sen. Tito Sotto who showed with brothers Vic, Val and Maru.

Willie Revillame felt he didn't have enough time to spend on the driving range that could have given him a better chance at winning.

However, just meeting old friends was enough to compensate for all the errant shots.

The ladies were there to add flavor and spice. The sight of Aiko Melendez and Candy Pangilinan laughing at their mistakes, the serious play of former Miss Universe Margie Moran-Floirendo, Princess Punzalan being far friendlier than the usual *contra bida* she's known for helped generate a lively mood amid the punishing winds and hot sun.

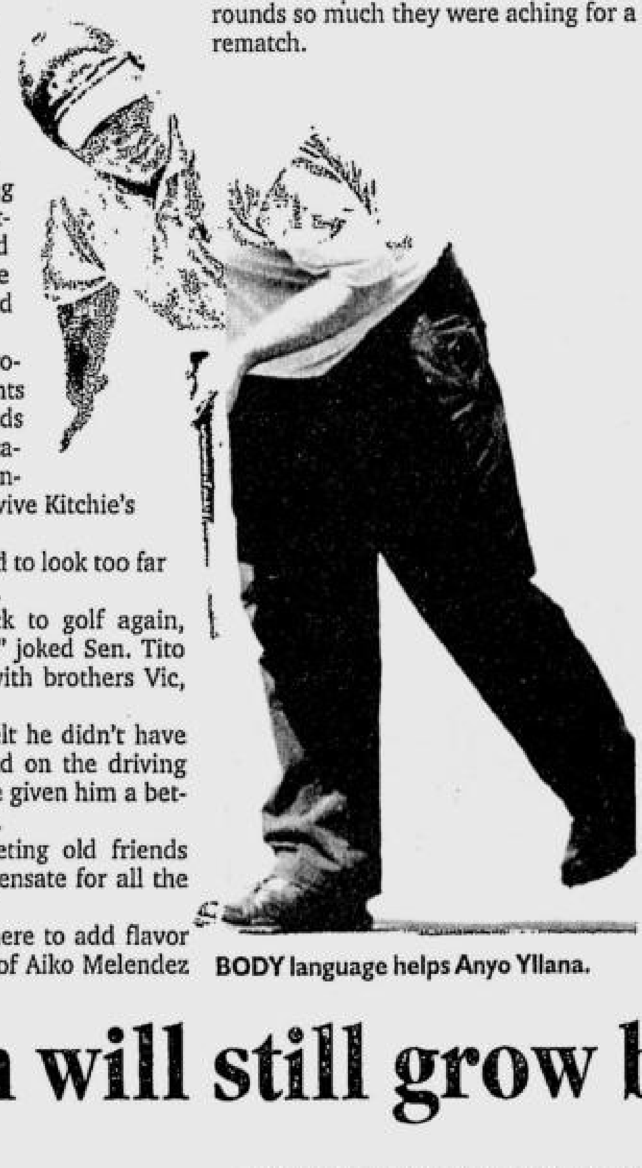
Vic Sotto and Anjo Yllana lost a day's pay at Eat Bulaga for playing yesterday. Not to worry though, they enjoyed their rounds so much they were aching for a rematch.



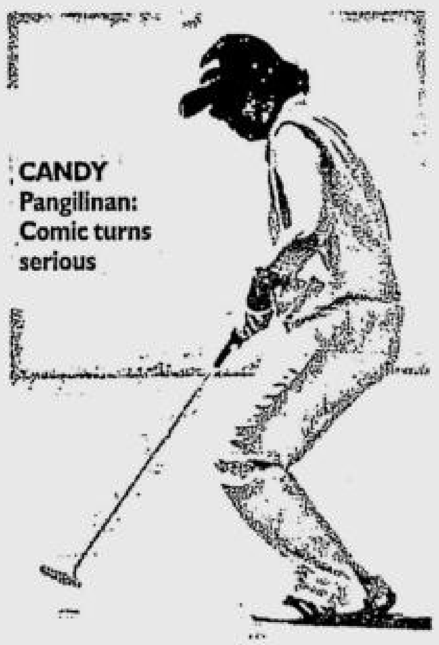
"BOSSING" Vic Sotto blasts out of a sand trap in the 18th hole. PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

WILLIE Revillame prepares to tee off.

AIKO Melendez checks her putting line.



BODY language helps Anyo Yllana.



CANDY Pangilinan: Comic turns serious

PRINCESS Punzalan: Intensity personified

SPORTSWATCH

Food drive gains support

MORE runners have thrown their full support to the 2nd Manila Marathon slated Nov. 28 at the Rizal Park. Arnold "Ali" Atienza, chief of the organizing Manila Sports Council [Masco], said their move to waive registration fees in exchange for donations of canned goods for indigent and underfed children in Kalinga and Antique contributed greatly to the bandwagon effect generated through the endeavor. "The public's response to our humble contribution for less fortunate children in the countryside is truly inspiring," said the son of Manila Mayor Lito Atienza. "By tapping social consciousness through this noble endeavor, we project more than 40,000 runners from all walks of life to lend a helping hand."

Ladies Cup tees off

KYTHE Foundation, whose mission is to provide psycho-social support to pediatric cancer patients and their families, will be the main beneficiary of the Manila Ladies Cup, a five-in-one golf tournament firing off Nov. 16 at Wack Wack's west course. The organizing Manila Lady Golfers Foundation Inc. put up the event last year to help raise funds for charities that will benefit women and children. For details, call 7249083, 7248903, 723-0665 or 723-6558.

WNCAA launches men's tilt

THE WOMEN'S National Collegiate Athletic Association (WNCAA) will launch its men's counterpart, the MNCAA, on Nov. 12 at the CEU gym. Participating schools are 1st season host Centro Escolar University, Angelicum, Chiang Kai Shek, Emilio Aguinaldo College, Immaculate Conception Academy Cavite, Lourdes-Quezon City, Siena College-Quezon City, University of the Assumption Pampanga, University of Asia & the Pacific and Rizal Technological University.

3 undefeated in NCA

THE FINAL derby of the NCA's National 8-Stag Championship of the 2004 NCA Stag Wars promises to be a huge affair, if the first day is any indication. The Oct. 28 tilt produced only three undefeated entries—Winning Time Jobo-B of Lito Orillaza, PPBG San Pablo Makisig of Boy Royo and Jima Fer JVL SMRC-I of Joe Laureno—out of 35 listed.

Bakbakan 8 stag elims

THE ELIMINATION rounds of Bakbakan: National 8 Stag derby of the National Federation of Gamefowl Breeders continue as breeders try to qualify for the championship next month. On Nov. 6 and 8, 130 breeders from the Luzon Gamefowl Breeders Association will hold their elimination round at the Roligon Mega Cockpit. The first day is exclusive to LGBA members, while the Nov. 8 tilt will accept stags banded by NGBA, GF BAN, PAGBA, MIGBA and CVGBA.

San Carlos tops under-14 meet

JAY R Bagiuoro, most valuable player in the recent Negros Occidental-leg of the Red Ribbon Football Fiesta, scored in the 58th minute to seal San Carlos City Football Club's 2-1 victory over FC de Pontevedra in the final of the Under-14 tournament.

San Carlos took a 19th minute lead on a strike by Ryan Lerio, but Pontevedra's Kevin Bonilla struck in the 36th to tie the count at the break.

Don Bosco Technical Institute took the bronze with a 2-1 win over FC de Pontevedra's 'B' team.

The final was staged at the West Negros College pitch in Bacolod and was graced by Mari Mendezona, secretary general of the Negros Occidental Football Association and Guia Malaga, Red Ribbon Bakeshop's Bacolod manager.

Badminton boom will still grow bigger, says coach Oreta

By Marc Anthony Reyes

COURTS are sprouting like mushrooms on a rainy day. Tournaments are cropping up in every converted warehouse. People go around walking with the latest gear and in the latest fashion.

Butch Oreta has seen this all before. It's a badminton boom still in its infancy.

The national coach said the craze that has hit the country is similar to the one that struck Chinese-Taipei in the early '90s.

"Back then, everywhere you go there are badminton courts, and people dropped ping pong [paddles] for badminton rackets," said Oreta.

But unlike sporting fads that cool off after hitting a high—billiards being a good example—Oreta believes badminton's peak, like in Chinese-Taipei, is still 10 years away.

"I believe this will also happen here in the country for two reasons," he explained.

First, badminton is one sport where Asians have a big chance of winning internationally. In fact, the best players in the world are mostly Indonesians, Malaysians, Chinese and Koreans.

So far, the country has only sent one player in the Olympics—former PSC commissioner Weena Lim. And in last year's SEA Games in Vietnam, the country won just a single bronze courtesy of siblings Kennievic and Kennie Asuncion.

But Oreta envisions bigger things.

"I have seen 12-year-olds play at a level of 16 to 18 years olds during my time here (Rizal Memorial Badminton Hall). There will surely come a time when the Filipinos can also excel in international stage," said Oreta. "The problem is, we have to carve a niche in Asian level first to conquer the world."

The other reason why Oreta expects the badminton fad to pick up steam is that it is easy to learn.

Still, Oreta cautioned aspiring players who choose to make do without the basics and rely on self-learned skills and sheer hours spent in the courts.

"When you don't learn the basics, you are likely to get bad habits that would be very hard to unlearn," said Oreta.

Badminton's popularity has its drawbacks. Oreta said rampant crimes are committed inside badminton courts, which go unreported for fear of getting bad press.

Oreta said police authorities, particularly Gen. Edgardo Aglipay, who happens to be the secretary general of the Philippine Badminton Association, have encouraged court owners to report armed robbery in their courts so measures can be taken.

He said badminton courts, which are mostly remodeled warehouses, should have an enclosed security box inaccessible to would-be holduppers.

"That way, security guards can call police without being harmed," said Oreta. "There are a few badminton courts in Metro Manila that have an enclosed box in the middle of the court."

But other than that, badminton—the sport of choice for a country looking for enjoyable ways to stay fit and have fun—is on a healthy rise to the top.

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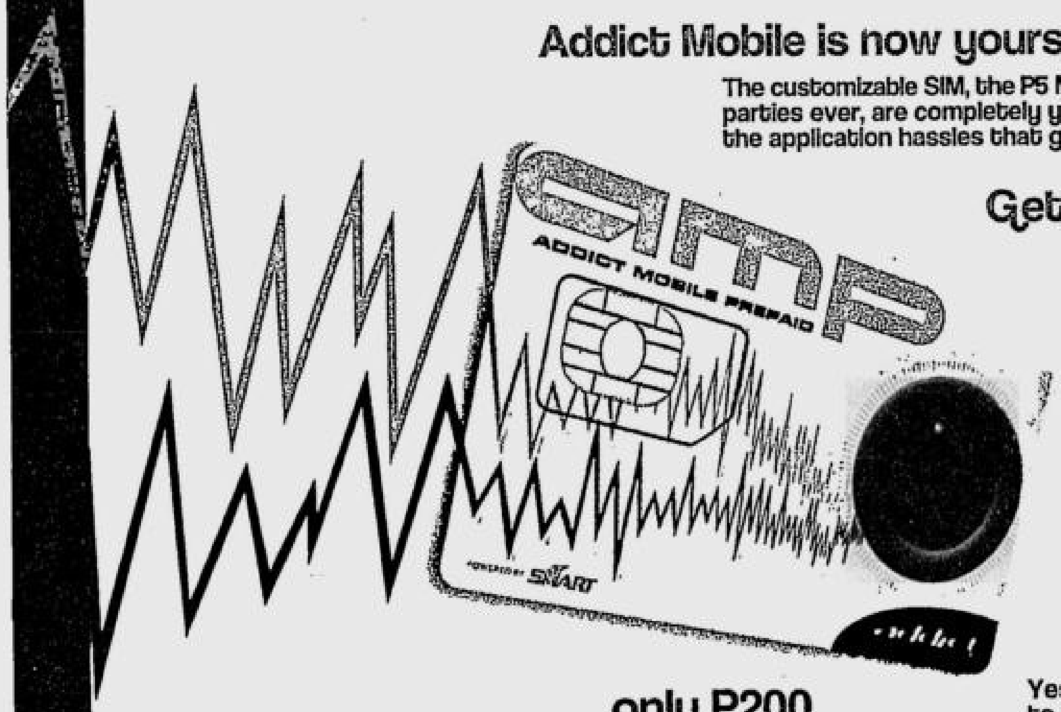

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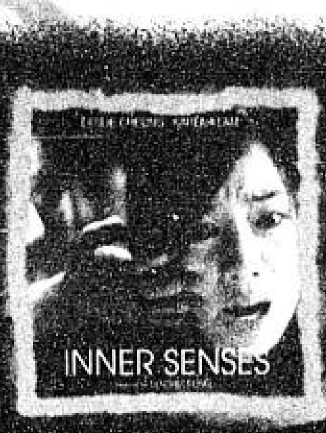

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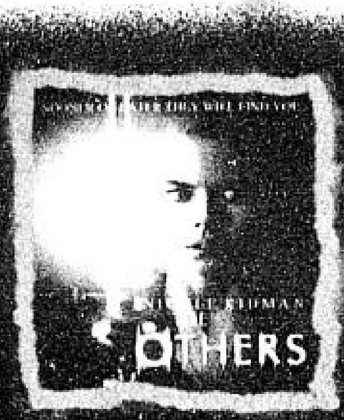

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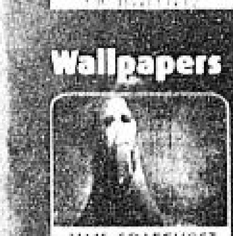

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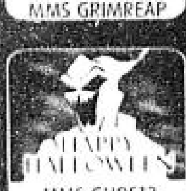
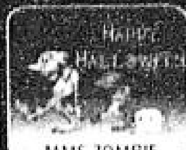


MMS GHOST2



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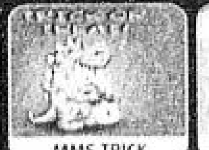
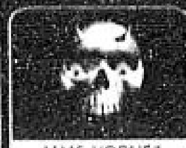


MMS TRICK

MMS WITCH4

MMS FIRE



MMS HORNS1

MMS COASTER

MMS COOLDEVIL

Ringtones

Song Title	Artist	Mono keyword
Addams Family	*Theme from Addams Family*	**TONE ADDAMS**
Halloween	*Theme from Halloween*	**TONE HALLOWEEN**
Don't Fear The Reaper	*Theme from The Frighteners*	**TONE FRIGHTENERS**
Superheroes	*Theme from Ghost Ship*	**TONE GHOSTSHIP**
Punk Song #2	*Theme from Scary Movie*	**TONE SCARYMOVIE**
Spiders	*Theme from Scream 3*	**TONE SCREAM3**
Calm Like A Bomb	*Theme from Matrix Reloaded*	**TONE CALMLIKE**
Duality	*Slipknot*	**TONE DUALITY**
Falling Away From Me	*Korn*	**TONE FALLINGAWAY**
Breathe	*Prodigy*	**TONE BREATHE**
Numb	*Linkin Park*	**TONE NUMB**
Bring Me Back To Life	*Evanescence*	**TONE BRINGME**
Another One Bites The Dust	*Queen*	**TONE ANOBITES**
Breaking The Habit	*Linkin Park*	**TONE BREAKHABIT**
Going Under	*Evanescence*	**TONE GOINGU**
Born To Be Wild	*Steppenwolf*	**TONE BORN2BE**
Come As You Are	*Nirvana*	**TONE COMEASUR**
Iron Man	*Black Sabbath*	**TONE IRONMAN**

Song Title	Artist	Poly Keyword
Addams Family	*Theme from Addams Family*	**POLY ADDAMS**
Thriller	*Theme from Thriller*	**POLY THRILLER**
Don't Fear The Reaper	*Theme from The Frighteners*	**POLY FRIGHTENERS**
Superhero 2	*Theme from Ghost Ship*	**POLY GHOSTSHIP**
Punk Song #2	*Theme from Scary Movie*	**POLY SCARYMOVIE**
Spiders	*Theme from Scream 3*	**POLY SCREAM3**
Calm Like A Bomb	*Theme from Matrix Reloaded*	**POLY CALMLIKE**
Duality	*Slipknot*	**POLY DUALITY**
Falling Away From Me	*Korn*	**POLY FALLINGAWAY**
Breathe	*Prodigy*	**POLY BREATHE**
Numb	*Linkin Park*	**POLY NUMB**
Bring Me Back To Life	*Evanescence*	**POLY BRINGME**
Another One Bites The Dust	*Queen*	**POLY ANOBITES**
Breaking The Habit	*Linkin Park*	**POLY BREAKHABIT**
Going Under	*Evanescence*	**POLY GOINGU**
Born To Be Wild	*Steppenwolf*	**POLY BORNWILD**
Come As You Are	*Nirvana*	**POLY COMEAS**
Scream SFX	*Sound effects*	**POLY SCREAM**

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2 Send to 288.

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- Note: In order for you to identify which musical work the ringtone in question is based on, we have, in addition to the song title, referred an artist who has made the song well known. The artist in question has not participated in the production of the ringtone. Questions? Comments? Concerns? Call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, text us at 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

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Editor Louie C. Camino
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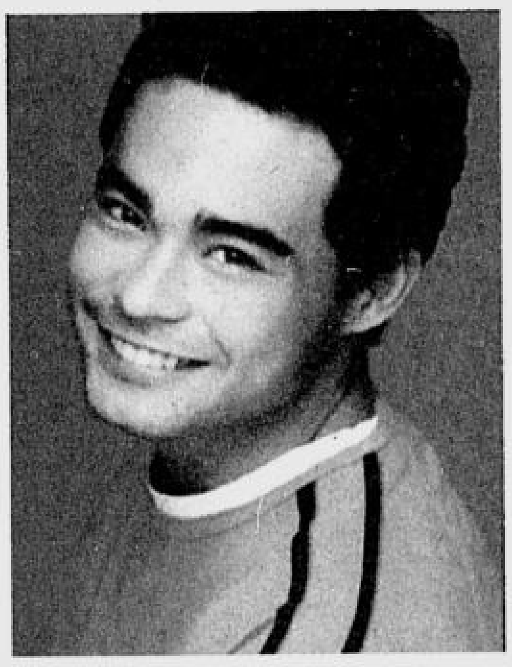
"LOOK WHO'S TALKING" hosts (from left) Anton San Diego, Tessa Prieto-Valdes and Johnny Litton with director Bert de Leon

JOSEPH AGCAOILI

IN THIS ISSUE



Tessa's talking! And so are Anton and, oh no, Johnny, too!

/A3-1

THE 6-MONTH-OLD baby in Mark Gil's arms (below) is the young man now known as Sid Lucero (above).

The newest Eigenmann

/A2-2

PIOLO Pascual is putting it on, not taking it off.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Piolo and Kenneth

/A3-2

IMPRESSIVE. Lhey Bella, also known as Rebekah

Rebekah: Kuh Ledesma's choice

/A2-2

COVERS
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Forevermore	101679	Hang On	101684
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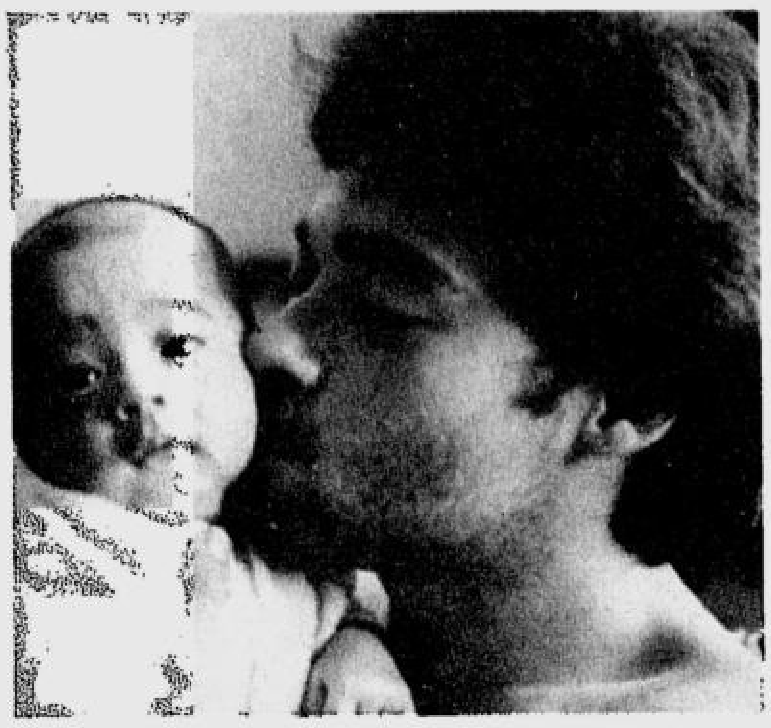


TIMOTHY Mark the baby, with proud dad Mark Gil

SID LUCERO the young man, who continues to make his father proud

IGO the character with Judy Ann Santos in "Krystala"

The newest Eigenmann

By Leah C. Salterio
Contributor

HIS GOOD looks alone are enough to guarantee for him a place in Philippine entertainment. But good looks are not all there is to Sid Lucero. His formidable lineage also entitles him to a special place in show biz.

The 21-year-old Sid, from the third generation of actors from the venerable Eigenmann clan, is a chip off the old block. His paternal grandfather, Eddie Mesa, was once known as the Elvis Presley of the Philippines. His grandmother on the same side is noted character actress Rosemarie Gil. And his father is Mark Gil, one of the most admired actors in Philippine cinema.

But rather than depend on his more popular relatives, Sid—real name, Timothy Mark Eigenmann—wants to be known for his own merits. It was the young man himself, in fact, who insisted on taking a screen name after he decided to follow in the big footsteps of his famous father.

The budding actor and his manager, Ricky Gallardo of The Talent Factory, picked the name Sid Lucero, which happens to be the name of Mark's character in Mike de Leon's classic film, "Batch '81." It was in that landmark movie that Mark met fashion and commercial model Bing Pimentel (remember her in the Coca-Cola TV ad?), who would give birth to Timothy Mark, who would become today's Sid Lucero.

"All of my cousins and even my half-brother Gabby, who are all in show biz, are using Eigenmann," Sid points out. "So, I decided to use a different name. *Tito* Ricky and I were in the car and we were thinking of a name. When he asked me, Did you watch 'Batch '81?' Then I told him, '*Yun na*!' That was how my screen name came about."

6 months old

Ricky, who also manages the show biz careers of Bituin Escalante, Franco Laurel, Tex Ordoñez, Ian Veneracion, Chad Borja, Simon Ibarra and AJ Eigenmann, recalls the first time he saw Timothy was when the boy was only 6 months old. At that time, Mark had won the Urian best supporting actor trophy for his performance in Lino Brocka's "Palipat-lipat, Papalit-palit."

Recalls Ricky, "Mark said, 'Come here, Ricky, I want you to look at my boy.' Inside the room was Sid in a crib beside Mark's Urian trophy. That same year, Mark had also won a best actor nomination from the Urian for 'Batch '81.' The next time I saw Sid, he was already in third year high school."

When Mark put up a bar in Dumaguete City in 2000, Ricky attended the opening with Gina Alajar, Mark's sister-in-law who is married to Michael de Mesa. Ricky saw Sid again. "At that time, he was with the varsity swimming team of Ateneo and we joked about his joining show biz," Ricky says. "It all started with a joke."

Sid has already done nearly half a dozen advertisements for Globe, Jack n' Jill Chippy, BPI Express Cash and Shakey's. Two years ago, he started going with his dad to the latter's tapings, shootings and other show biz appointments.

Sid formally entered show biz last year and made his TV acting debut in GMA 7's short-lived drama series, "Hanggang Kailan." Recently, however, he moved to ABS-CBN, where he is now in the primetime soap, "Krystala." Sid plays Igo, one of the three love interests of Judy Ann Santos, who plays the title role.

Who he admires

"Being in show biz is like a dream," Sid says. "One moment you're here and the next moment you're in another place—and you don't exactly remember how you got from one place to the other."

Sid insists he wants to be known as a good actor like his dad. "My dad is not really my idol," he says, "but he is really good. I like him best in 'Kid, Huwag Kang Susuko.' He is very good when he's bad in his movies.

"I also admire Pen Medina and Ronnie Lazaro. I had a scene with Ronnie in 'Krystala' and at first I was scared of him because I know he's really a good actor.

"For me, it's not really the money that's important," he adds. "It's the product that comes after the work."

Although the pressure of living up to his illustrious family name exists, Sid seems undaunted. "This is the career path I chose," he declares. "It's flattering when people refer to me as 'the son of Mark Gil,' but I'll work hard to move away from the shadow of my dad. I know it's hard and it may not be smooth-sailing all the way, but I'm ready for it."

He already sounds like a true Eigenmann.

Rebekah: Kuh Ledesma's choice

By Remy Umerez
Contributor

WHEN Kuh Ledesma sat as a judge for the 2002 "Star Quest," she was impressed with runner-up Lhey Bella, whose voice she found "powerful."

The contestant from Cavite did not win the coveted title, but came away with Kuh's express approval. After the show, the singer approached Lhey and offered to manage the girl under her own Headline Concepts. "You're really good," Ledesma said. "And you project well."

When she signed a contract with Headline, Lhey was renamed Rebekah—Hebrew for "captivating."

According to Rebekah, she got her love for singing from her mother. "She sings during weddings, anniversary parties, even in wakes," she said in Filipino. "Our favorites are 'Gaano Kita Kamahal' and Barbra Streisand's 'Evergreen.' At 14, I was already singing with a band called City Sounds."

Rebekah has guested in concerts that Kuh produced. In one of the shows, they even sang a duet. It was a defining moment for the young performer. She soon became a favorite for corporate engagements.

Role model

"Ma'am Kuh taught me everything she knows," Rebekah said. "She's been like an elder sister to me. When she criticizes me, she does it in such a way that I don't feel offended. She wants me to know by heart what professionalism means. She is strict and a disciplinarian, but for the right reasons. I know she only wants me to improve."

Rebekah, now 22, recently auditioned for Floyd Evengelista of E-Real Records, a new company owned by Filipinos but based in the United States.

E-Real is headed by Dulce Madrid. The company's goal is to prepare Filipino talents for international stardom. Evengelista flew in from Poway, California, on Kuh's invitation just to listen to Rebekah.

The young singer recalls how the audition went: "I strummed the guitar and sang 'Isang Lahi.' Then I did 'Hands to Heaven' and 'Almost Over You.' I think they liked what they heard, because they want to bring me to the US."

Meanwhile, work has begun on her debut album, which will mark yet another phase in her singing career. The carrier cut, "Stop," which she herself wrote, will soon be played on radio. The album will also feature four original songs by R&B star Keith Martin, known for his big hit, "Because of You."

Christmas wish

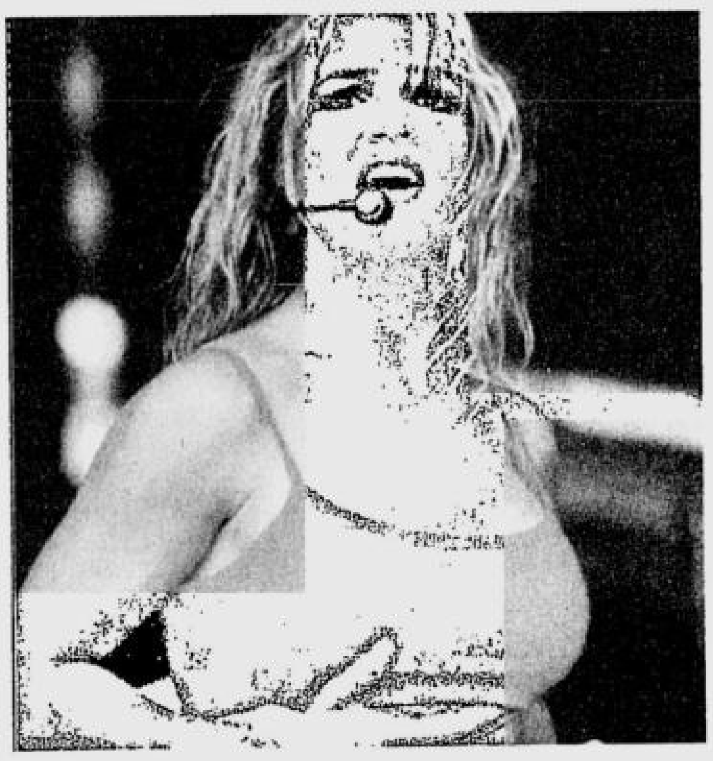
Year after year, Rebekah makes a wish at Christmastime.

"I used to pray that my parents [who are separated] would get back together. But I've stopped, seeing it's not even remotely possible. Now I'm just focusing on my career. And so my wish this year is for my album to serve as my calling card when I go to the States. E-Real has so much faith in me, I want to be able to rise to the challenge."

In November, for three consecutive Fridays, Rebekah will perform at the Republic of Malate.

"CAPTIVATING." Formerly known as Lhey Bella

SIGNED. Kuh Ledesma (far right) and Rebekah seal the deal with E-Real Records, represented by (from left) Frank Ganan and Floyd Evangelista.



'Mystery' of Britney Spears' breasts revealed

AWARD-WINNING composer and columnist Dero Pedero reveals an explanation to the mystery of Britney Spears' bosom in his latest seminar, "You Can Be More Beautiful & Photogenic!"

Pedero took up film directing and production with Dov Simens at the Hollywood Film Institute, and lighting for film with Verne Carlson at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles, California.

Part I of the seminar expounds on the psycho-metaphysical aspects of beauty. Part II is loaded with hundreds of pictures of stunning celebrities, Hollywood movie stars' beauty secrets, and many eye-opening makeup tricks and techniques for looking fabulous in person and in pictures.

Learn the Pedero Beauty Laws, why some people are more beautiful than others, cosmetics and makeup tips, the magic of face restructuring, how to have an instant nose lift, the Makeup Law, mistakes you shouldn't make, the Pedero Beauty Formula, makeup for the Oriental face, posing and photogenic secrets, how to look like a movie star, and much more!

The seminar is a must for beauty enthusiasts and practitioners, models, show personalities, and those who just want to look their best.

It is one of the Pedero Life-Enhancement Seminars offered this season:

"Make Your Impossible Dreams Come True!" on Nov. 19, Friday, at 6 p.m.; "Money, Money! Secret Principles of Money & Prosperity," Nov. 20, Saturday, 1 p.m., and "You Can Be More Beautiful & Photogenic!" Nov. 21, Sunday, 1 p.m.

The venue is at Club Filipino in Greenhills, San Juan.

All Dero Seminars are fully guaranteed. If not satisfied, you can leave after the first part and your money will be refunded with no questions asked.

For information, private and corporate sessions, early bird and student discounts, and future schedules, e-mail DeroSeminars@yahoo.com or call/text 0920-4053233.

Focus on three new directors

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

Takashi Shimizu, Tim Story, Paul McGuigan

THUS far, most of the Asian directors who have made it big in the US films are of Chinese descent: **Ang Lee, Zhang Yimou, Wong Kar-Wai**, etc.

With the success of "The Grudge," however, Japanese filmmaker **Takashi Shimizu** bids fair to join their exclusive club.

"The Grudge" is currently topping the US box office, riding high on the popularity of Asian horror movies. Shimizu has added his unique touch to the evolving genre by opting to show ghosts, not as specters, but in a more realistic fashion.

The filmmaker is also known for his relentless pacing and great sense of style. Producer **Sam Raimi** gushes, "He never leaves you any time to catch your breath. He has elevated the genre to a new level."

When Shimizu was tapped to meg the American version of his original Japanese film, he was insecure about having to work with American actors, and according to Hollywood's way of doing things.

But he was heartened when he was given creative freedom, and it was pointed out that the US version's bigger budget would enable him to achieve the special effects that he hadn't been able to pay for in his movie's original version.

As for the US stars, Shimizu didn't get any sass from them. In fact, lead players **Sarah Michelle Gellar** and **Bill Pullman** were profuse in their praise for their director's mastery of his craft, and grateful for the unusual treat of shooting the movie in Japan.

In "The Grudge," Gellar plays an American student in Tokyo who's terrorized by a violent spirit lingering in a house with an extreme bloody history.

Tim Story is another relatively new filmmaker whose movie is generating box-office buzz—but in the field of zany comedy. His new movie, "Taxi," follows up on the success of his first major feature film, the 2002 comedy smash hit, "Barbershop."

"Taxi" is the American remake of a blockbuster French film, and making it was a joy for Story. In the original film, the lead character was a male taxi driver named Daniel.

While attempting to stay true to the protagonist's obsession with speed, Story tweaked the original concept and flipped the lead character's gender, so he could cast **Queen Latifah** in the colorful role.

For the role of Washburn, Story needed a young comedian who was a good enough actor to play an undercover police officer. He found exactly the right talent in **Jimmy Fallow**, one of the hot young comics on TV's "Saturday Night Live," who plays his first movie lead role in "Taxi."

In the film, while Queen Latifah fearlessly revs her way through the streets of New York in her souped-up cab, Fallow clumsily chases a gang of robbers, which leaves him carless and unlicensed.

To prove his superiors wrong, he decides to take Latifah's taxi to nail the robbers.

For his part, director **Paul McGuigan** was able to get **Josh Hartnett** to star in his new movie, "Wicker Park," because Hartnett was a fan of McGuigan's previous film, "Gangster No. 1."

Once he started shooting for "Wicker Park," Hartnett became even more of a fan because he loved McGuigan's dextrous use of recurring motifs and themes in his new psychological thriller.

In the film, Hartnett's character is obsessed with the haunting memory of a girlfriend who mysteriously disappeared from his life two years ago.

Unable to get her out of his mind—and heart—Hartnett starts looking for the missing woman. His search leads him deeper into the mystery, as the film moves back and forth in time, revealing its story from different perspectives.

Despite these dark elements, McGuigan sees "Wicker Park" as a film about possibilities. He shares, "What appealed to me was its theme of passion, and the belief that love conquers all. I think that's the sweetness of our movie: It is a story about the possibility of love finding a way in the most improbable circumstances."

"Wicker Park" also stars **Diane Kruger, Rose Byrne** and **Matthew Lillard.**

Must Scream TV

HALLOWEEN hilarity starts at noon today with 12 full hours of nonstop creepy-crawlies and comedy. The opening salvo is made up of Halloween episodes from "Buffy, The Vampire Slayer."

"WICKER PARK"

'Shack of Horrors'

FOR SPINE-TINGLING fun, catch "Nick's Chilly Shack of Horrors" from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Adidas Sports Kamp today. Nickelodeon's Chilly Shack is a haunted house full of vampires, witches, zombies and monsters.

Younger kids can listen to the Storybook witch's creepy tales. And children who "survive" the chilly shack will receive Halloween treats. Nickelodeon's event partners are Smart Kid and Selecta.

'The Forgotten'

THE GALA premiere of "The Forgotten," the new supernatural thriller starring **Julianne Moore, Gary Sinise** and **Dominic West**, will be held at SM Megamall on Nov. 2. The film starts its regular run on Nov. 3.

Moore's character is a mother tormented by the memory of her son's death. When she is told by the psychiatrist that her recollections are delusional, she is convinced that she's going mad—until she meets a man in the same situation. He joins her in a search to prove the existence of their children.

"TAXI"

"THE GRUDGE"

Enjoy the Sweetest Sunday ever!

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Antonio Aquitania
Jacque Estevez
Brad Turvey
with
Railey Valeroso
Bettina Carlos
Toni Rose Gayda
Dino Guevarra
Cita Astals
Mariel Rodriguez
and
Mr. German Moreno
Directed by
Mark Reyes, dgpi

Love Blossoms

starring
Jolina Magdangal
Alfred Vargas
Biboy Ramirez
with
Jake Cuenca
Katarina Perez
Jan Marini
Gerard Pisaraz
Mariz
Marco Sison
Directed by
Gil Tejada

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Spirit Warriors code:IA281

Shake Rattle & Roll 2 code:IA275

Dahas code:IA256

Anak Ni Jani code: IA186
Anak Ni Janica code: IA187
I Will Survive code: IA191
I Will Survive code: IA192
I Will Survive code: IA193

Long Ranger code: IA198
Long Ranger code: IA199
Pido Dida code: IA206
Pido Dida code: IA207
Starzan code: IA211

Starzan code: IA209
Starzan code: IA210
Batang Quiapo code: IA252
Cheeta-eh Ganda Lalake code: IA253
Relasyon code: IA208

Gagamboy code: IA257
Singles code: IA276
Singles code: IA277
Kuya code: IA195
Kuya code: IA196

Mano Po1 code: IA202
Mano Po2 code: IA203
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Sinungaling Mong Puso code: IA280
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Hubog code: IA258
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Singles code: IA278
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Don't miss your favorite TV shows! Check out today's Inquirer TV Guide in the Entertainment section Happy Viewing!

Tessa's talking!
And so are Anton and, oh no, Johnny, too!

By Marinel R. Cruz

TALK TV. Johnny Litton, Tessa Prieto-Valdes and Anton San Diego host "Look Who's Talking." JOSEPH AGCAOILI

INQUIRER Lifestyle columnist and fashion iconoclast Tessa Prieto-Valdes swears that going into show business was never on her mind when she agreed to do a weekly magazine show on ABC 5.

"No, no, no!" she told INQUIRER Entertainment in an interview at her Forbes Park home. "Show business for me is very demanding. I can't commit to it because I'm so free-spirited. I don't want to be trapped in a box. If I'm not in the mood and I don't like to do something, I won't do it. I keep guesting in all these shows, but I don't want to get deep into this thing."

"On the other hand," added veteran TV host Johnny Litton, "show biz would be the next step for Anton and me. We want to be bold actors."

SHOW TIME

Very busy

Tessa, Johnny and Tatler Philippines editor Anton San Diego are hosting "Look Who's Talking," which premieres on Nov. 10 at 10:30 p.m. on ABC 5. The show is produced by KB Entertainment.

"I only agreed to do this show because I would be working with Johnny and Anton, and I won't be too pressured," said Tessa, who was two months pregnant with her third child at the time of the interview. "I'm actually so busy with what I'm doing that my kids are already complaining. I don't think I can do this alone. And besides, people might get bored if I keep talking and talking."

> 'How would you like a diamond with only one facet? A diamond shines better with many facets. This show brings that'

And talk Tessa did during the interview. Anton had to interrupt her so he could have his turn. "Tessa, me *naman*," said Anton, laughing.

"Sorry, Anton," Tessa said.

"I accepted this show," said Anton, "because it's a challenge for me. I've been involved with magazines since 1998. I want to see how far I could go. But I made sure I understand the concept. So before we taped, we talked with the producer and the director. They shared their ideas with us and we gelled."

You are there

According to Anton, viewers will get a peek into everything that's happening in and out of the country through "Look Who's Talking." Among the interesting topics are the recent Manila visit of Princess Caroline of Monaco, Petron president Khalid D. Al-Faddagh's insight on oil prices and their impact on the economy, and the forthcoming Tattler Ball in Hong Kong.

"Not many people can go to these events, but when they watch us, it's as if they're there," explained Johnny. "Another example is the launch of the last episodes of the top-rating show 'Sex in the City' that was held recently at the Bellevue Hotel in Alabang."

"We have individual sections in the show," said Tessa. "It's more of a lifestyle show with a twist. We bring our own personalities to the show. I'm into belly dancing so we'll have features on that, as well as parties and fashion shows. Johnny will have one-on-one interviews with different personalities."

The show caters not only to the more privileged class, but to the *masa* as well, according to Johnny. "Through the show, the *masa* can share, if vicariously, in the events."

"I think both the *masa* and the rich would want to know more about the *artistas*," said Tessa. "We'll interview them, ask them what they are wearing, what party they are going to or who they are going out with. We'll also cover charitable events. There are so many people who don't know how to sort of channel their funds."

No take-twos

The three hosts agreed that taping the show for the first time was not easy. Even Johnny, whom Tessa and Anton described as a TV expert, said he also had to adjust.

"I was learning just like them because 90 percent of my previous show, all 22 years of it, was aired live," Johnny said, referring to "Oh No It's Johnny."

"I was very intimidated by a lot of things," shared Anton. "We shot at the Shangri-La Mall and everyone was watching."

TESSA'S/ A3-2

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Ogie Alcasid	Kung Mawawala Ka	Regine Velasques	Sana Maulit Muli
Regine Velasques	Babalik Kang Muli	Ogie Alcasid	Pagkakataon
Ogie Alcasid	Nandito Ako		

Top 20 Karaoke Hits

Artist	Song Title	Artist	Song Title
South Border	Rainbow	Edwin McCain	I'll Be
Stephen Bishop	It Might Be You	Indigo Girls	Power Of Two
Sarah Geronimo	Forever's Not Enough	Five for Fighting	Superman
David Pomeranz	Got To Believe In Magic	Richard Marx	Now & Forever
VST & Co.	Awitin Mo Isasayaw Ko	Keith Martin	Because of You
Daniel Beddingfield	If You're Not the One	VST & Co.	Ipagpatawad Mo
James Ingram	Just Once	Gary Valenciano	Sana Maulit Muli
Claire Marlowe	Til They Take My Heart Away	Gary Valenciano	Reaching Out
Depache Mode	Somebody	Gary Valenciano	Narito
Eraserheads	Huling El Bimbo	South Border	Kahit Kailan

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Artist	Track	Keywords Mono	Poly	Lyrics
Ogie Alcasid	Bakit Ngayon Ka Lang	N121	T121	Ly121
Ogie Alcasid	Kung Mawawala Ka	N122	T122	Ly122
Regine Velasques	Babalik Kang Muli	N123	T123	Ly123
Ogie Alcasid	Nandito Ako	N124	T124	Ly124
Ogie Alcasid	Dito Sa Puso Ko	N125	T125	Ly125
Regine Velasques	Sana Maulit Muli	N126	T126	Ly126
Ogie Alcasid	Pagkakataon	N127	T127	Ly127
Ogie Alcasid	Sa Kanya	N128	T128	Ly128
Regine Velasques	Kailang Ko'y Ikaw	N129	T129	Ly129
Ogie Alcasid	Dahil Mahil Kita	N130	T130	Ly130

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RINGBACK TONES They'll sing along when they call you.

Song Title/Artist	Code	Song Title/Artist	Code
Bakit Ngayon Ka Lang / O. Alcasid	EA062	Hangang Ngayon / Kyla	EA076
Dahil Mahal Kita / O. Alcasid	EA063	Dahil Mahal Kita / Boyfriends	EA077
Dito Sa Puso Ko / O. Alcasid	EA064	1st Love / Boyfriends	EA078
Bluer Than Blue / R.Velasquez	EA065	Hey Its Me / J. Rivera	EA080
Just Dont Wanna Be Lonely / R.Velasquez	EA066	I've Fallen 4U / J. Rivera	EA081
Pagkakataon / O. Alcasid	EA067	Mula Noon Hangang Ngayon / L. Salonga	EA082
Nandito Ako / O. Alcasid	EA068	Muli / V. Morales	EA083
Sa Kanya / O. Alcasid	EA069	Nahuli Kita / J. Zaragoza	EA084
Sana Maulit Muli / R.Velasquez	EA021	Masaya / Bamboo	EA145
Kung OK Lang Sayo / True Faith	EA072	Without You / J. Albert	EA086
Huwag Nalang Kaya / True Faith	EA074	Ikaw Lang Mamahalin / J. Albert	EA087
Perfect / True Faith	EA019	Why Can't It Be / R. Raymundo	EA090
Because Of U / Kyla	EA075	Remember Me / R. Verano	EA091

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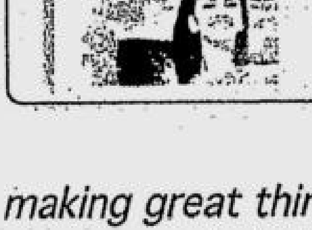

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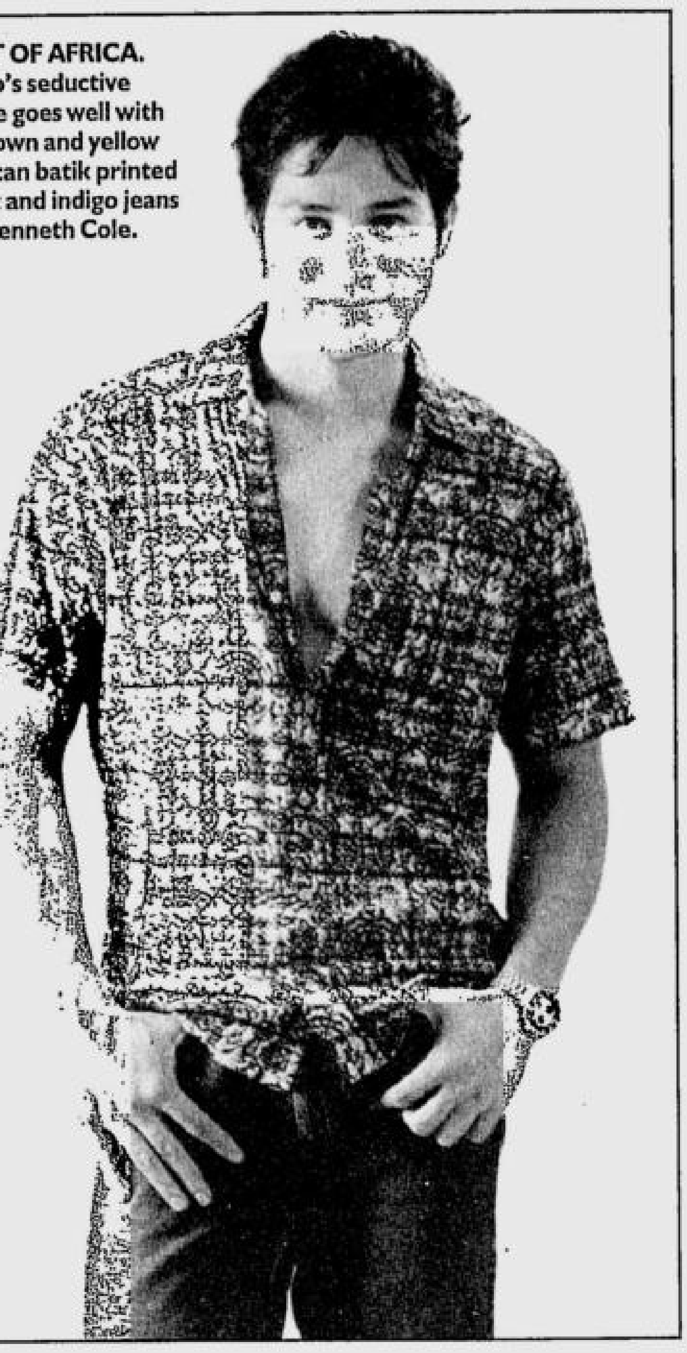
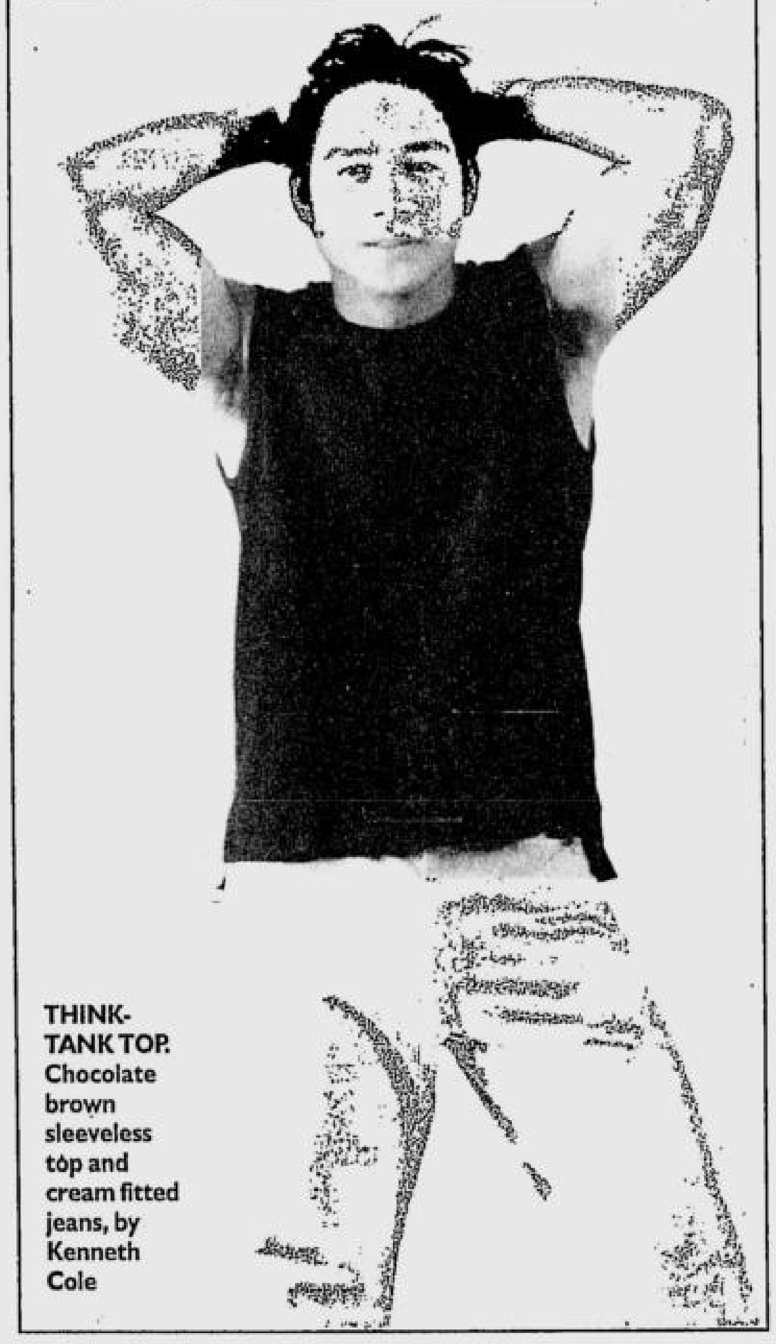


OUT OF AFRICA. Piolo's seductive smile goes well with a brown and yellow African batik printed shirt and indigo jeans by Kenneth Cole.



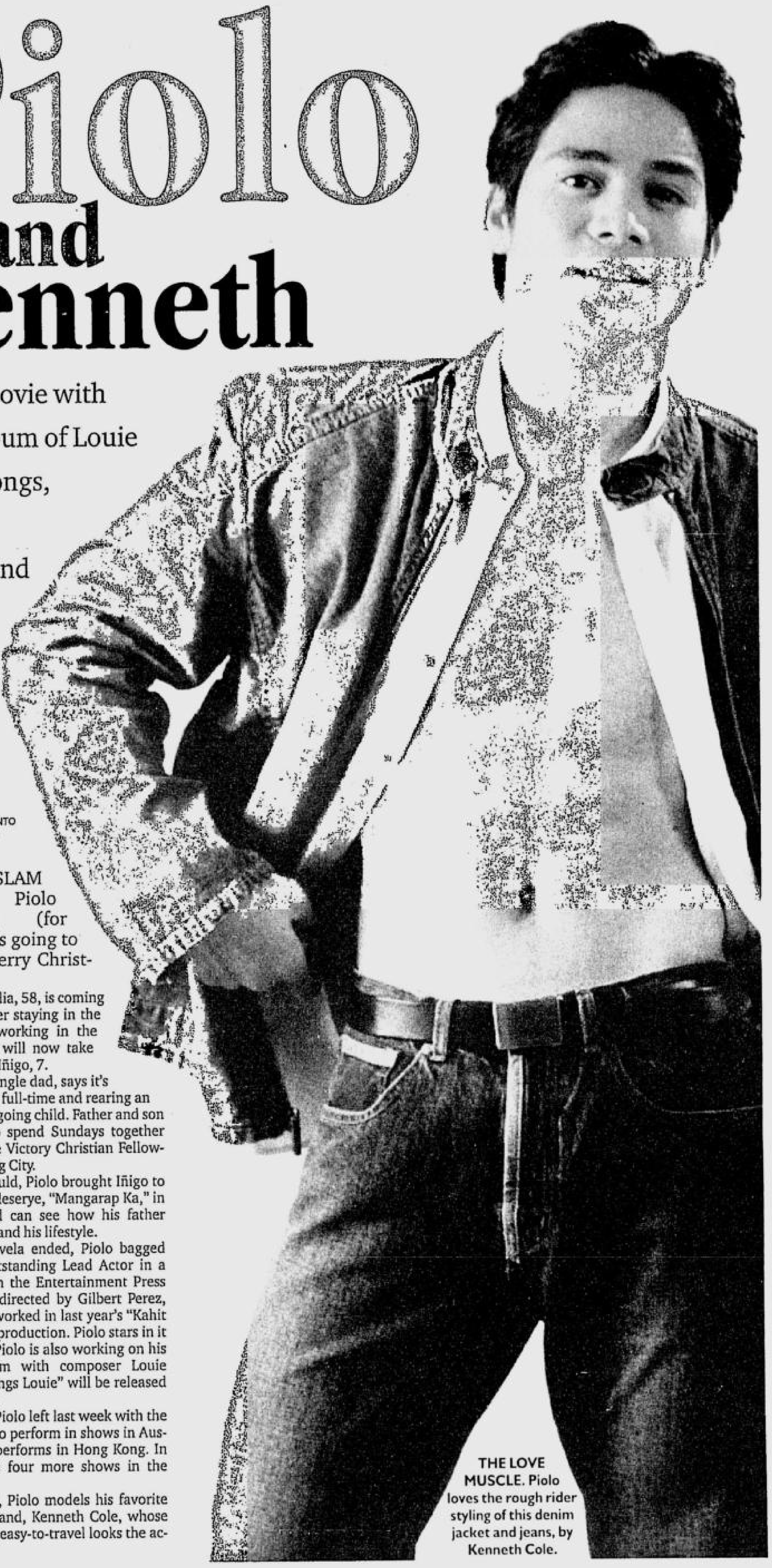
THINK-TANK TOP. Chocolate brown sleeveless top and cream fitted jeans, by Kenneth Cole

Piolo and Kenneth

He has a movie with Bea, an album of Louie Ocampo songs, shows in Australia and HK

SHOW STOPPER

By Larry Leviste
Contributor
PHOTOS BY ERNIE U. SARMIENTO
CLOTHES AND ACCESSORIES BY KENNETH COLE



THE LOVE MUSCLE. Piolo loves the rough rider styling of this denim jacket and jeans, by Kenneth Cole.

GRAND-SLAM actor Piolo Pascual (for "Dekada 70") is going to have a very merry Christmas.

His mother, Amelia, 58, is coming home for good. Ater staying in the US for 15 years working in the medical field, she will now take care of Piolo's son, Iñigo, 7.

Piolo, who is a single dad, says it's hard to be working full-time and rearing an inquisitive and outgoing child. Father and son make it a must to spend Sundays together worshipping at the Victory Christian Fellowship Church in Pasig City.

Whenever he could, Piolo brought Iñigo to the taping of his teleserye, "Mangarap Ka," in Quiapo so the kid can see how his father works and understand his lifestyle.

After his telenovela ended, Piolo bagged the award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series from the Entertainment Press Awards. A movie directed by Gilbert Perez, with whom Piolo worked in last year's "Kahit Isang Saglit," is in production. Piolo stars in it with Bea Alonzo. Piolo is also working on his third music album with composer Louie Ocampo. "Piolo Sings Louie" will be released on Valentine 2005.

Concert tours? Piolo left last week with the rest of the Hunks to perform in shows in Australia. Nov. 7, he performs in Hong Kong. In December, he has four more shows in the United States.

In this pictorial, Piolo models his favorite casual clothing brand, Kenneth Cole, whose denim styling and easy-to-travel looks the actor loves.

'Indiana Jones,' Part IV, is coming

LOS ANGELES—Hollywood heavyweights Steven Spielberg and George Lucas have hired a high-profile movie writer to pen a new script for a fourth instalment of the "Indiana Jones" adventure series, the trade magazine Variety reported.

DID YOU KNOW...

Spielberg and Lucas, who directed and produced the successful movies, agreed a decade ago with star Harrison Ford that all three would have to agree on a script for the next movie about the adventurous archaeologist.

After working unsuccesfully with several writers the trio settled on Jeff Nathanson, who wrote the script of "Catch Me If You Can" starring Leonardo di Caprio, and co-scripted the Tom Hanks movie "The Terminal," both directed by Spielberg.

Nathanson also penned the script for the successful Jackie Chan-Chris Tucker "Rush Hour" action comedies.

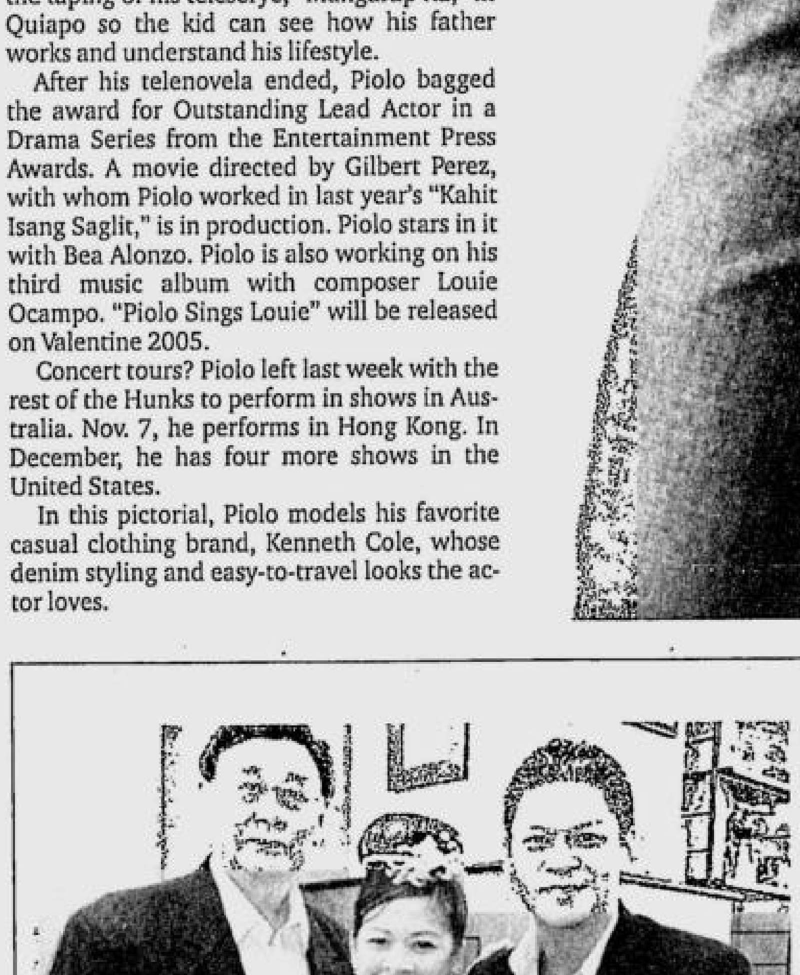
The project seemed dead in February when Paramount Pictures canceled a mid-year production start because a script by Frank Darabont—whose writing credits include several episodes of the "Young Indiana Jones" television series as well as the upcoming "Farenheit 451"—was not unanimously approved by the trio, according to Variety.

Once Spielberg, Lucas and Ford agree on a script it still unclear how soon the movie will begin filming.

Spielberg, who is completing "War of the Worlds" with Tom Cruise, plans to focus on a movie about the aftermath of the 1972 Munich Olympics terror attacks, according to Variety.

Lucas is focused on completing the third "Star Wars" movie, while Ford is preparing to star in a thriller titled "The Wrong Element," followed by a drama about a crisis on an international space station titled "Godspeed."

The last "Indiana Jones" movie, the third in the series, came out in 1989. *AFP*



FIRST-TIMERS Tessa and Anton are very good, according to TV veteran Johnny.

JOSEPH AGCAOILI

Tessa's talking! And so are Anton and, oh no, Johnny, too!

From page A3-1

"Don't let him kid you," Johnny said. "Tessa and he were very good. The criterion is always simple when you're taping—cut, do it gain, cut, do it again. With them, there were no cuts. No take-twos. For first-timers, Anton and Tessa were excellent."

"The pilot really takes longer to tape," said Tessa. "It's our first time to tape together but I can see that we're just going to breeze through it next time."

Energized by the young

For Johnny, his love for television made him say yes to hosting "Look Who's Talking."

"[Working for] television is a form of relaxation for me," he said. "At the same time, I like working with young people. They always energize you. I also look at it as a way of sharing experiences with people who, for whatever reason, can't be with us.

"People would say 'why are you showing these things in this time of economic crisis?' We're showing these because we want to inspire people, to reach out, and teach them not to live with their palms always open."

With him, Tessa and Anton as hosts, Johnny said, "Look Who's Talking" is a most unusual show. "It brings you the different facets of lifestyles, from the eyes of the young, the unusual, the experienced," he said.

"How would you like a diamond with only one facet?" he added. "A diamond shines better with many facets. This show brings that. We get serious, we joke around, we're artistic, we're creative. We are, with all due respect, quite a formidable team."

Regine and Zsa Zsa: Applause, not censure

JUICE

Jo-Ann Q. Maglipon

THIS week I bumped into **Ma. Consoliza Laguardia** and somehow my runaway tongue had to bring up the gowns of **Regine Velasquez** and **Zsa Zsa Padilla.**

See, it has bothered me no end that Mrs. Laguardia, chief censor of the land, should actually take offense at the fashion choices of performing artists. I caught her on TV saying this about necklines: "*Okay 'yung hanggang dito* [fingers pointing to two inches below collarbone] *pero 'wag naman 'yong ganito* [fingers going one inch lower]."

In other words, a neckline for church.

My, the censors chief has added *fashion critic*—no, *fashion police*—to her job description! And her personal taste would dictate that Regine and Zsa Zsa's collars should be like hers.

I don't understand. Have we just become the Stepford Wives here? Or, while I was sleeping, did the entire female population sign up for a *cofradia* of some sort?

But since Mrs. Laguardia seems like a nice woman who probably means well, and whose only fault may be that she *talked* when she should have *thought*, I brought up the gowns thing.

In reply, the censors chief said she never "reprimanded," she had simply "reminded"; she'd issued no memos, she'd simply let fall a small remark to the press.

In turn, I said that nothing she says can ever be just a "reminder"; that each time she speaks, her words carry with them the full weight of her position; that for as long as she remains head of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board, whatever she lets fall to the press will have a ripple effect; and that she will send the industry scurrying in all directions in an attempt to appease her.

To that she replied with a sheepish smile which, I figured, was meant to show modesty about all the fuss made over her smallest remarks. But, I daresay, all she managed to do was play coy. For within that briefest of time at the curb, I knew for certain that she understood the power of her position *perfectly*.

Beyond instinct, there are the facts.

Mrs. Laguardia handed her resignation letter as a matter of courtesy, and for a while it looked to have been accepted by the President, or at least the President's official signature on the letter must've been seen by the Palace subalterns who announced it, only this was followed by contrary noise from outside, pushing the Palace spokesperson to say somebody below flubbed it, until finally Mrs. Laguardia ended up holding on to a second term as censors chief.

Pray, if your position held no real power, would you even want it a second time around?

What's the crime?

What is with those gowns anyway?

There is no decency issue here. Those gowns are glamorous, not scandalous; provocative, not exhibitionist; innovative, not hedonistic. And given the bodies they are draped on, they are extremely pleasing to the sight.

Of course, one person's pleasure is someone else's fright night. But that's precisely why we fight tyrannies, right? We want the plurality, and we want it even in fashion!

As I always say, you can have your "Sound of Music," but leave me alone with my "Addams Family."

The censors chief has also said she just wants to avoid having accidental breast exposures on TV. Good for her.

But why should her fear of an accident reduce the rest of us adults to a wardrobe of uptight collars and sackcloth?

Why should her paranoia over a few publicity-hungry girls dictate a whole new line of constipated dressing?

Sure, a censor's "reminder" may not have the force of law, but if it has the same effect, then a censor had better stop taunting artists with it.

Already, Zsa Zsa has said she would look over her just-finished gowns and have them redone. And Regine has said the censors' chief had the right to interfere but wanted to know why just them?

On both counts, I disagree with the women.

If Zsa Zsa can carry those slinky gowns, if she doesn't see anything lewd about them, if **Dolphy** finds them beautiful on her—why in the world should she have them redone?

She has broken no law!

If Regine can perform like a songbird in necklines that plunge and backs that drop to there —why ever should she shift to safe and prissy costumes?

It's her body, it's her choice!

Otherwise, what's next?

More small "reminders" from the chair—that the artist's hair is too vampy, the earrings too chunky, the legs too shiny, the nails too painted, the gums too exposed! And then what? Oh, the song protests too much, the play is too libertine, the novel too angry!

Censorship, remember, is a slippery slide.

Defying the acceptable

In the end, what is worrisome is not that someone should want to be MTRCB chair—one can still do some good there, I should think—but that that someone should have so little understanding of artists.

Artists—like Regine and Zsa Zsa—are in our midst precisely to defy the common and the acceptable and to try the untried, not just in song, but in everything, including matters of beauty and fashion.

That's the way any society moves forward.

If these artists simply rode the tide, they wouldn't be the wondrous performers they are and we wouldn't be the lucky audience we are. And we'd be stuck.

Just look at them!

They mold themselves to the mood and theme of whatever the stage demands, they transport us to another world where everyone is gay and kind and only good feelings abound, they weave the magic that gives us the ethereal and the substantial all at once.

That is entertainment and *these* are artists!

And beyond that, look at their discipline!

They bend their bodies to their will. They deny themselves rich food. They undergo surgery. They give up socials. They spend big money to stay in top form. They do what it takes to be stars in a society that, unfortunately, demands great looks even in artists as good as they.

So please, can our well-meaning censors just leave them alone? Please.

THE DIVINE Diva and the Songbird give audiences great joy; our censors should return the favor by not giving them grief.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF YES! MAGAZINE

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

TV GUIDE

Sunday October 31, 2004

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Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABS-CBN 2		SCQ Reload		The Buzz			Rated K			Wansapanataym			Ang Tanging Ina		Sunday Family Cinema				The Weekend News
NBN		Value Vision		2004 NBC Game Of The Week				Paco Park Presents		Go For Gold			To Be Announced		The Working President	Unlimited Diving	Out Of Town		
ABC 5		Ringside		PBA										Viva Cine Idols				ABC Onstage	
GMA 7	Gigstars	Love To Love			S-Files			Mel & Joey			All Star K			Daddy Di Do Du		Sunday Night Box Office			Flash Report
RPN 9		Golf Power	Auto Extreme	Kids TV	Road Trip	To Be Announced		Headlines Exposed		Ripley's Believe It or Not		Just For Laughs		Sunday's Big Event				The Working President	A Second Look
IBC 13	Global Family Series	Home Shopping Network		Home Shopping Network		Japan Video Topic		Home Shopping Network		Malinaw Na Panganib Ngayon		Pemsa		In This Corner		Iyo Ang Katarungan	EL SHADDAI		
Solar		WWE Smackdown				WWE Velocity		WWE Experience		WWE Bottomline		WWE Afterburn		Pride FC				Slamball	
Nickelodeon	Double Decker				Sabrina The Teenage Witch	Romeo	Fairly Odd Parents	The Adventures Jimmy Neutron	Yakkity Yak	My Life As A Teenage Robot	SpongeBob SquarePants	Danny Phantom	All Grown Up		Double Decker			The Ren & Stimpy Show	The Wild Thornberrys
ETC		Dateline		Star Search		Meet My Folks		NBC Nightly News	What I Like About You	The O.C.		Girls Behaving Badly	Simple Life 2	For Love Or Money		Nip Tuck		Dateline	
Cinema One				Sanib				Love Notes				A Tale Of Two Sisters				Ika-13 Kapitulo			
Studio 23								Nginig: The Hidden Files		The Amazing Race 6		Two & A Half Men	Survivor Vanuatu Live	Will & Grace	F	Digital Tour (10:15PM)	Mutant X (10:45PM)		
AXN		Bet Your Life				Rescue 911		AXN Shakedown		Maximum Exposure		Fear Factor		CSI: Miami		When Animals Invade Your Home		World's Most Shocking Moments Caught On Tape	
Star World				The Apprentice		Business Week Asia	Travel Asia	Smallville		The Simpsons	Stark Raving Mad/Kumars At No. 42	Oprah Prime Time		The X-Files		Enterprise		Stark Raving Mad	Oprah Prime Time
CNN	International Correspondents	World News	Next@CNN	Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	World News	Talk Asia	World News	People In The News	World News	Main Sail	Global Challenges	World Sport	World News	CNN Business Traveller	Talk Asia	Daily Show With John S
National Geographic	On Assignment	Explorations By Duracell		Samsung Best Of The Week		The Snake Wranglers	Croc Chronicles Dr. Brady Barr	Built For The Kill		Innovation		Megastructures		Secrets Unveiled		Explorations By Duracell		Samsung Best Of The Week	
Lifestyle Network	Date With Design	Ground Rules	Outer Spaces	Your Private Island	Breathing Room	Back To Basics	Barefoot Contessa	Everyday Italian	Ciao America With Mario	Food Network Special		Modern Girl's Guide	E! Entertainment Special		Wild On	Behind The Velvet Ropes		Planet Parent	Molto Mario
HBO	Life As A House				Mr. Deeds (4:45 PM)				Maximum Velocity			Jumanji			The Tuxedo (9:45 PM)				Ripley's Game
Star Movies	Rob Roy					Captain Corelli's Mandolin					Frailty (7:20 PM)			Underworld				Jeepers Creepers	
Cartoon Network	Dynomutt, Dog Wonder	New Scooby & Scrappy-Doo Show	The Detective Squad	Tom & Jerry Show	Duck Dodgers	X-Men Evolution	The Powerpuff Girls	Atomic Betty	Xiaolin Showdown	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	He-Man & The Masters Of The Universe	The Looney Tunes Show		Cartoon Cartoon Show	Power Rangers Wild Force	Samurai Jack	Time Squad	Duck Dodgers	He-Man & The Masters Of Universe
ESPN				Premier Snooker League 2003 Southport, UK				World Pool League '02 Finals		MLB World Series '04 Game #6							X-Games Preview/Recap		
Disney Channel	Potatoes And Dragons	Sabrina's Secret Life	Lion King's Timon & Pumbaa	Quack Pack	That's So Raven	Martin Mystery/ Kim Possible/ Dave The Barbarian/Even Stevens				That's So Raven				My Wife And Kids	That's So Raven	Even Stevens	America's Funniest Home Video	Wonderful World Of Disney	
Cinemax			Born On The Fourth Of July				Look Who's Talking Too			Changing Lanes (7.15 PM)				The Survivors Club			100 Mile Rule		
Hallmark Channel		She's Too Young				Frankenstein				Frankenstein				Napoleon			Monster Makers (10.35PM)		
Discovery Channel		Full Metal Challenge		Science Mysteries		Rides		Mythbusters		Hour Asia		Cathay Pacific		Discovery Sunday				Power Zone	
MTV Philippines		Non-Stop Hits		MTV Brand New	Wildboyz	The Assistant	MTV Jams	MTV Supahstar		Room Raiders	Punk'D	Non-Stop Hits	Newlyweds	World Chart Express	Pimp My Ride	MTV Ask		VH1 Tv Moments Rock & Style	
EWTN	Saints For The Third Millenium St. Therese Of Lisieux	The Chaplet Of Divine Mercy	Council Of Faith	Children's Devotional Rotation	Faith Factory	Rosary With Mother Angelica	EWTN Bookmark	Catholic Compass		Fr. John Corapi		Sunday Mass			Life Is Worth Living	Suffering Church	Backstage	Mother Angelica Live Classics	

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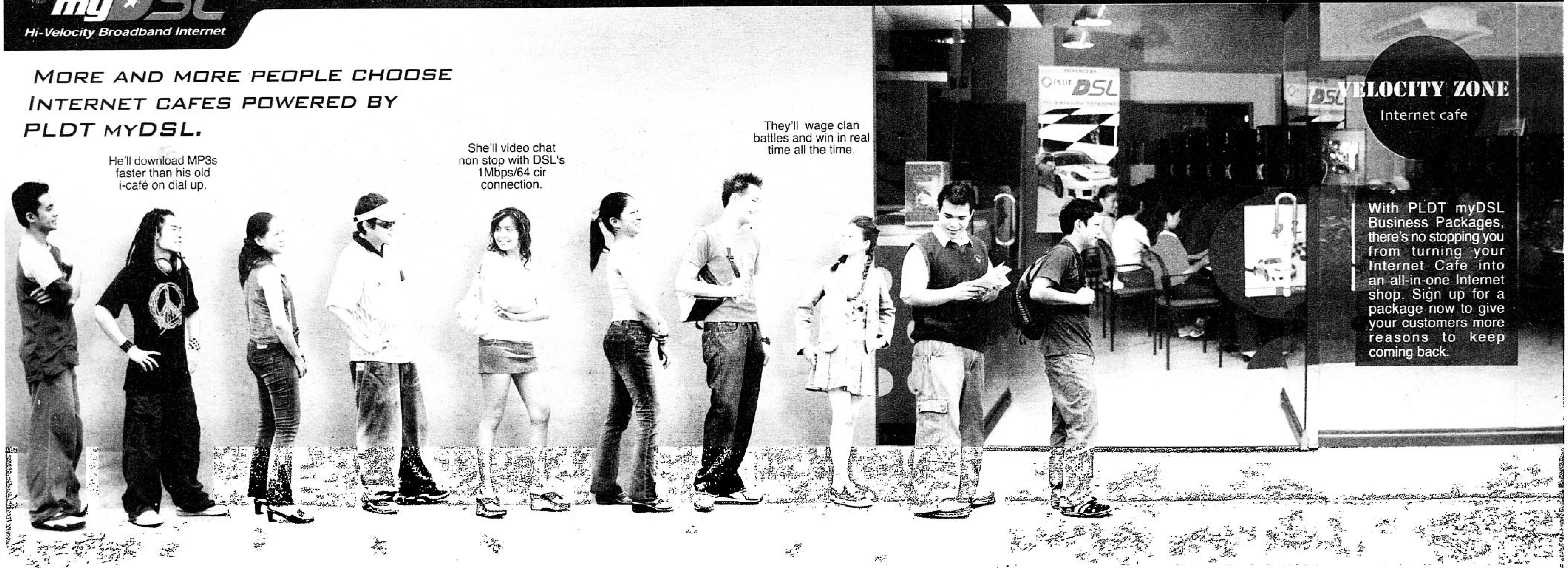

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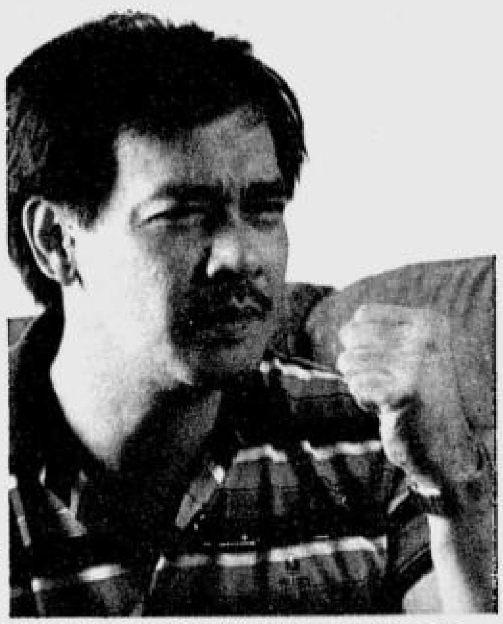
Bernie Fineza hooked on drugs, says Parsons

Don't believe what Sonny says, he wants to ruin everyone, says Kirby's dad



FRIEND AND BROTHER Sonny claims he knows how Bernie treats his family.

By Nini Valera

TELLING a tale of despair and excesses, former Hagibis leader Sonny Parsons described Bernie Fineza, one of the members of the Village People-type group, as a "boy in a man's body."

A 15-year-old finalist in the "StarStruck" talent search, Kirby de Jesus, had accused Bernie, his father, of abandoning the family when the boy was 5 years old.

Parsons, 46, told INQUIRER Entertainment last week that Bernie had been hooked on drugs since they first met in 1979.

"I knew it from the start," said Sonny. "Marijuana, Mogadon. That's why we didn't get along. I would rather go to the gym [than take drugs].

"I told him to reform," Sonny claimed, "and he said he would. But he always went back [to his old ways]. Among us [in Hagibis], Bernie became the closest to me. I know all of them, and it's only Bernie who went wayward."

Bernie earlier denied to INQUIRER Entertainment that he is still into drugs.

"Don't believe what Sonny says," Bernie said. "He's all BS. He wants to ruin everybody."

Rehab attempts

Bernie also lacked discipline, Sonny said.

"Show business is not permanent," Sonny said. "You're only good up to your last show. What I mean is... save, save for the rainy days. But Bernie never saved."

"I think it's [because of] his addiction, and his lifestyle," Sonny added. "He spends more than what he earns. He goes out every night... spends his money [on] drinks, shabu, until nothing was left. He never denied being into drugs. He was always into drugs."

Three times, Sonny attempted to have Bernie rehabilitated, but nothing happened, said Sonny.

"*Ang tanda na natin, kailangan ko pa ba siyang pagsabihan*? [We're old enough. Did I have to tell him what to do?]," Sonny said. "You [should] know what's right, so do it."

In 2001, when Hagibis reunited and released one album under Star Records, Sonny thought Bernie would recover from his setbacks. The group was popular again, and money from their concerts was pouring in. Sonny said he was able to earn about P2.9 million that year from shows alone.

"Our manager, Malou Borja, even came up with the idea of putting Bernie's money in the bank instead of giving it to him," Sonny recalled. "He must have accumulated about half a million during that time. But Bernie spent his money little by little, until one day it was all gone.

"I feel sad because Bernie is a very talented person as far as music is concerned. Michael Bolton *'yan*. I even told him, 'Boy, *diyan ka sa boses mo yayaman* [Your voice could make you rich]."

Nice house

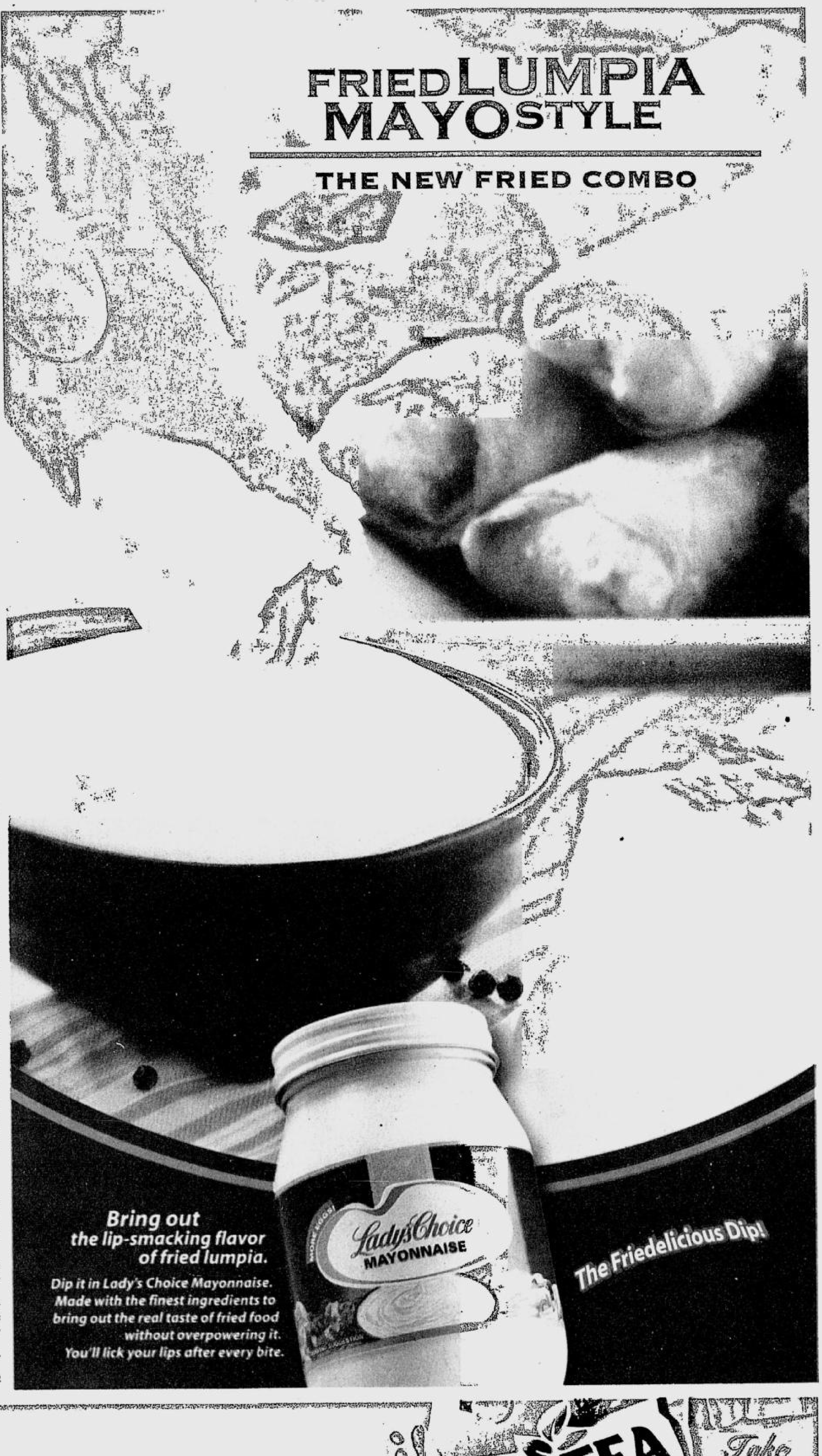
When Hagibis split up in the '80s, Sonny became an actor, director and a politician. The other members went on to other careers. But Bernie was left behind, according to Sonny.

"He went to Japan as a singer *daw*," he said. "He became a hosto [male guest relations officer]."

Sonny said Bernie had money when he returned from Japan. That was also the time that he was living with Maita de Jesus, mother of Kirby, the "StarStruck" finalist.

"They had a house in Caloocan," said Son-

BERNIE/ A4-2



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NESTEA
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Take what fits you right.

Bernie Fineza hooked on drugs...

From page A4-1

ny. "*Maganda* [A nice house]. But when the money was all gone, they split up.

"It's ironic," Sonny added. "When we have children, we know we're supposed to be responsible for our children. But coming from the child himself, that his father neglected him, we'd believe that was what really happened."

Sonny claimed he saw how Bernie had treated his family. He described Bernie's relationship to his family as, "*Ni-ha, ni-ho*, nothing."

'He's not yet hopeless but he should be a man and face the world'

Beaten up

But his friendship with Bernie survived, Sonny claimed. When he was already an actor, Sonny would pass on roles to Bernie, he said.

"He would call me to thank me," said Sonny. "He had money again. But what did he do? In one shooting, the staff beat him up. *Nayayabangan sa kanya* [They found him arrogant]. He still thought he was Hagibis, and therefore a star."

Sonny admitted that he had also gone through that phase, but had overcome the delusion.

"You should learn to accept that you've reached your peak, and learn to face your downfall," he reflected.

The last movie Sonny made was "Bala Para Sa Katarungan," which he produced, directed and starred in, for Regal Films in 2000.

"When action movies were no longer in vogue, I shifted to directing," said Sonny. "I studied first in Boston."

Like Hagibis, Sonny's movie career is now at a standstill. But he still performs occasionally—Thursdays at Hobbit House in Ermita—and has acquired a property in Antipolo, which he turned into an entertainment venue, calling it Hobbit East. The place will open third week of November.

Paranoid

But Sonny still has time for his friend Bernie, whom he last saw about three months ago.

"I was jamming with Freddie Aguilar at Hobbit House," recalled Sonny. "Bernie came and asked for money. Freddie gave him a thousand. Later, I gave Freddie P500 as my share. It's natural for Bernie to come to us for money. He said he needs money to buy his medicines. He's diabetic, and he has high blood pressure.

"Lately, I noticed that he has also become paranoid. When he's like that, you should give him what he asks for. Otherwise, he would say nasty things to you. But it's not all the time that I have money on me."

But Sonny claimed that he could not turn his back on Bernie.

"He's my brother," he said. "Sometimes, I just get fed up with him. He always wanted to take things easy, and that's not possible.

"No, Bernie's not yet hopeless," Sonny added. "But he should be a man and face the world."

ABANDONED at 5, "StarStruck" finalist Kirby de Jesus says he's happy with his stepfather.

This weekend at the US boxoffice:

'Grudge' will shock again at #1

A shocking scene from "The Grudge"

Predicted to make it two in a row at number one in the US boxoffice, *Sony's* **The Grudge** will be a hard film to beat this weekend coming off of a spectacular $40M bow which was the biggest three day weekend gross for a horror movie in motion picture history. **The Grudge** is expected to collect $19-20 M for the second weekend for a stunning $68M in just 10 days. It will likely be the most profitable movie for Sony this year. The Grudge is the 7th Sony movie to hit #1 in 2004. [BOXOFFICEGURU.COM]

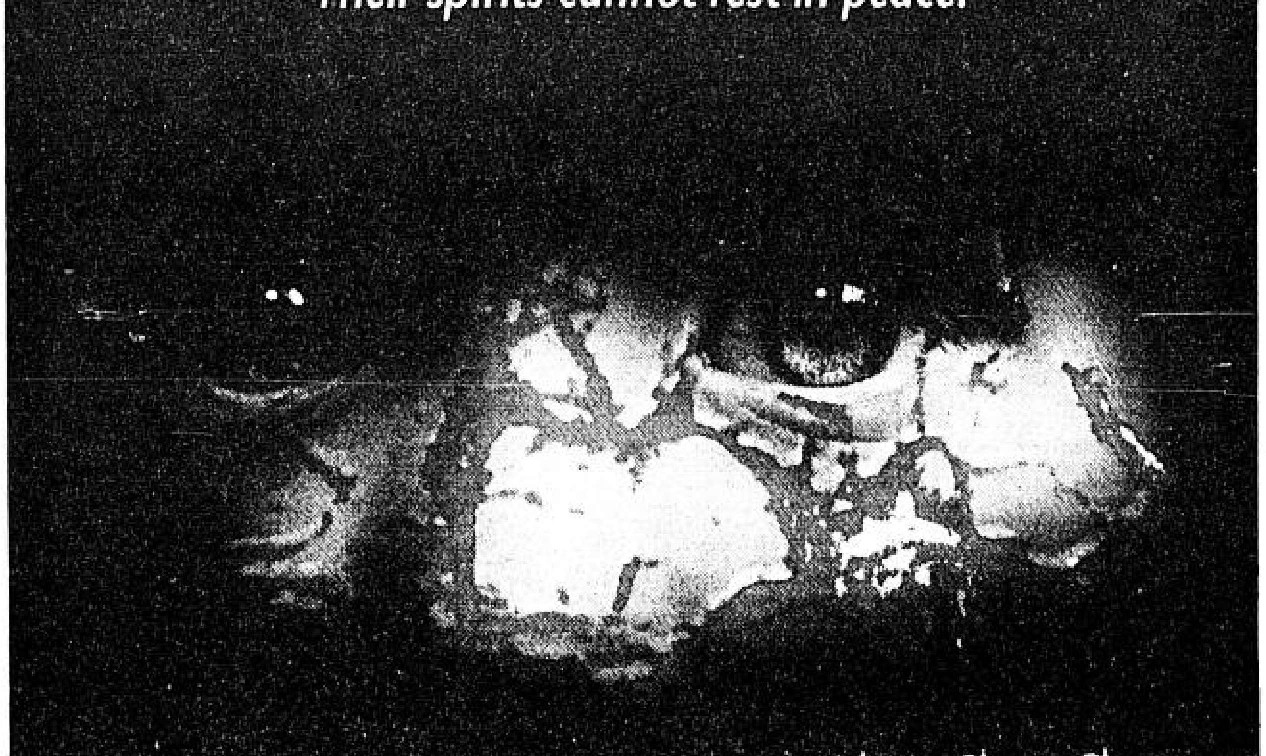
ADVT.

MTRCB RATING R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP **OPENS NOV 10**

After the remake of "THE RING" and "THE GRUDGE" comes the American remake of Spain's scariest movie of the same title

DO YOU BELIEVE IN GHOSTS?

Forty years ago, seven children died in this evil house. Their spirits cannot rest in peace.

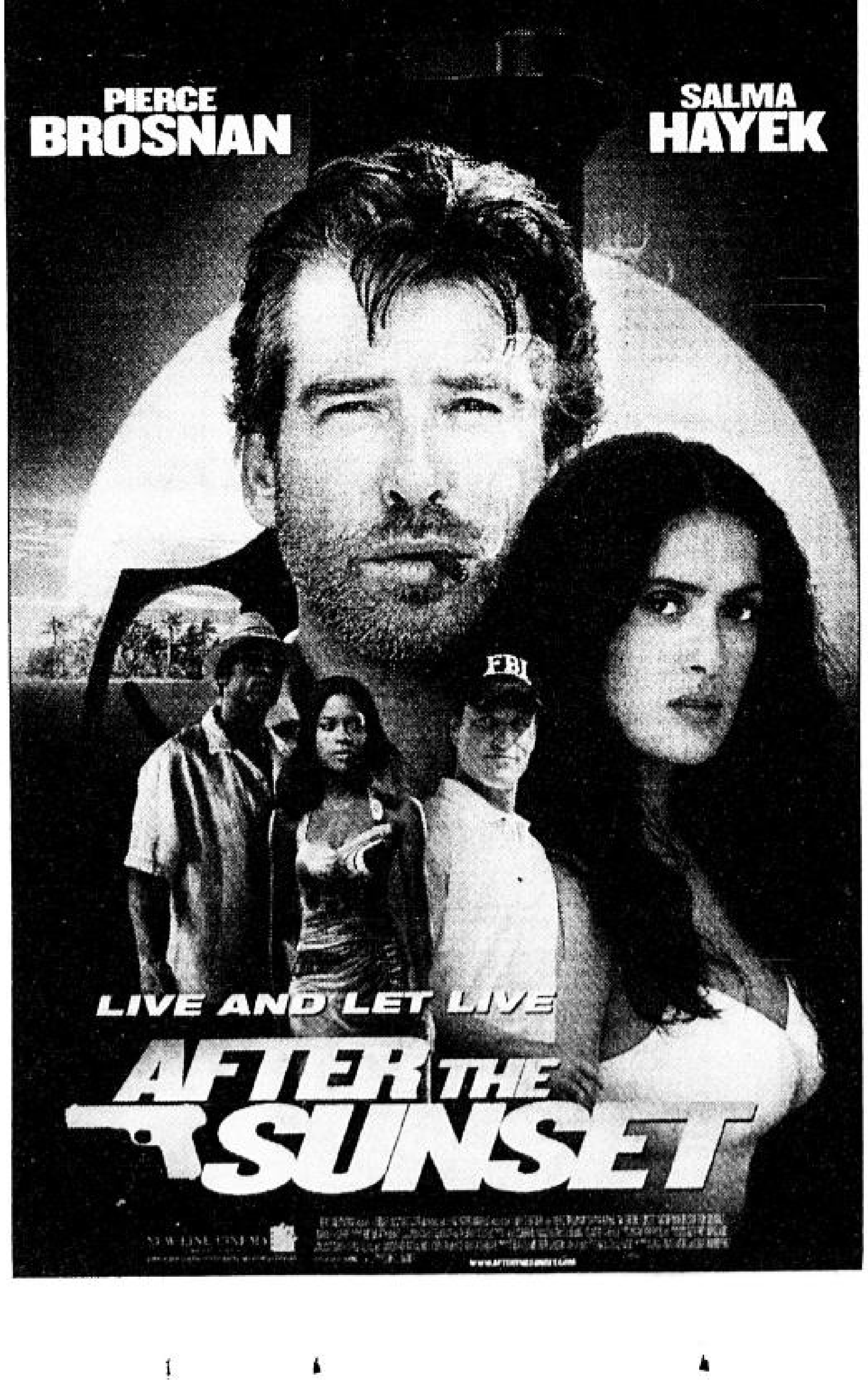


DARKNESS

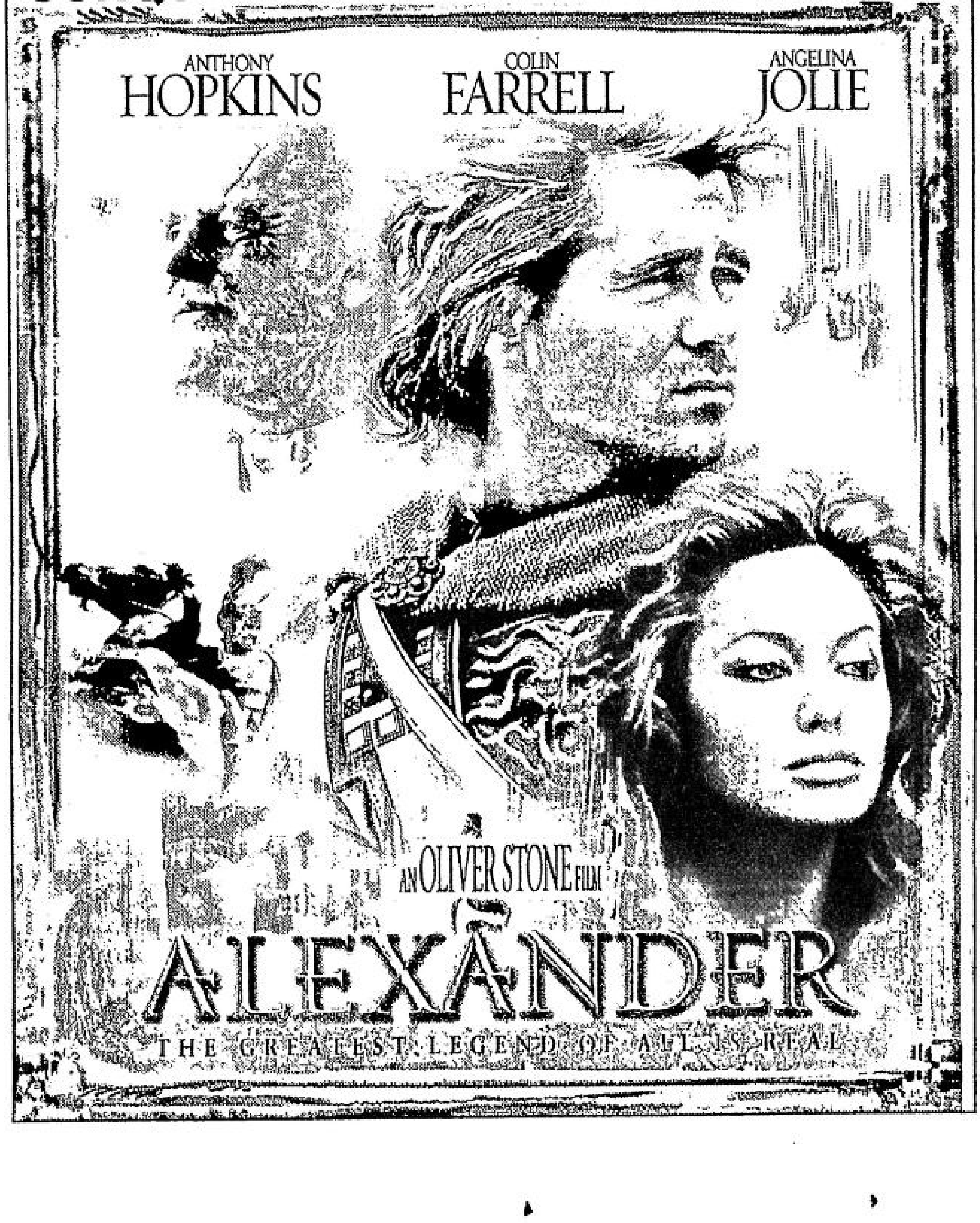
ANNA PAQUIN LENA OLIN GIANCARLO GIANNINI A film by JAUME BALAGUERÓ

SHOWING SIMULTANEOUSLY in USA & PHILIPPINES -- Nov. 12, 7:30pm

James Bond's Pierce Brosnan is back in a role you like him best.



CONQUERING THE WORLD ON NOV. 24



‘Ray’ kicks off battle for Oscar...

From page A4-4

The best actress race appears wide open with several veteran leading ladies vying for the Oscar, but O’Neil noted that in recent years Oscar voters have favored younger actresses whom he called Hollywood’s “babe du jour.”

That title could belong to 26-year-old French actress Audrey Tautou for “A Very Long Engagement,” Zhang Ziyi, 25, in the Chinese film “House of Flying Daggers” or last year’s “Lost in Translation” breakout star, Scarlett Johansson, 19, in “A Love Song for Bobby Long.”

Among the veterans are Annette Benning as a 1930s stage diva in “Being Julia,” Britain’s Imelda Staunton as an abortionist in “Vera Drake,” Julia Roberts in “Closer,” Kate Winslet in “Finding Neverland,” Cate Blanchett for “Aviator” and Laura Linney in independent film “p.s.” and in “Kinsey.”

Among the yet-to-be released movies that experts think could be competing for best picture Oscars are Oliver Stone’s “Alexander” about the conqueror, James L. Brooks’ tale of modern domesticity “Spanglish,” Wes Anderson’s offbeat “The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou” and Joel Schumacher’s “The Phantom of the Opera.”

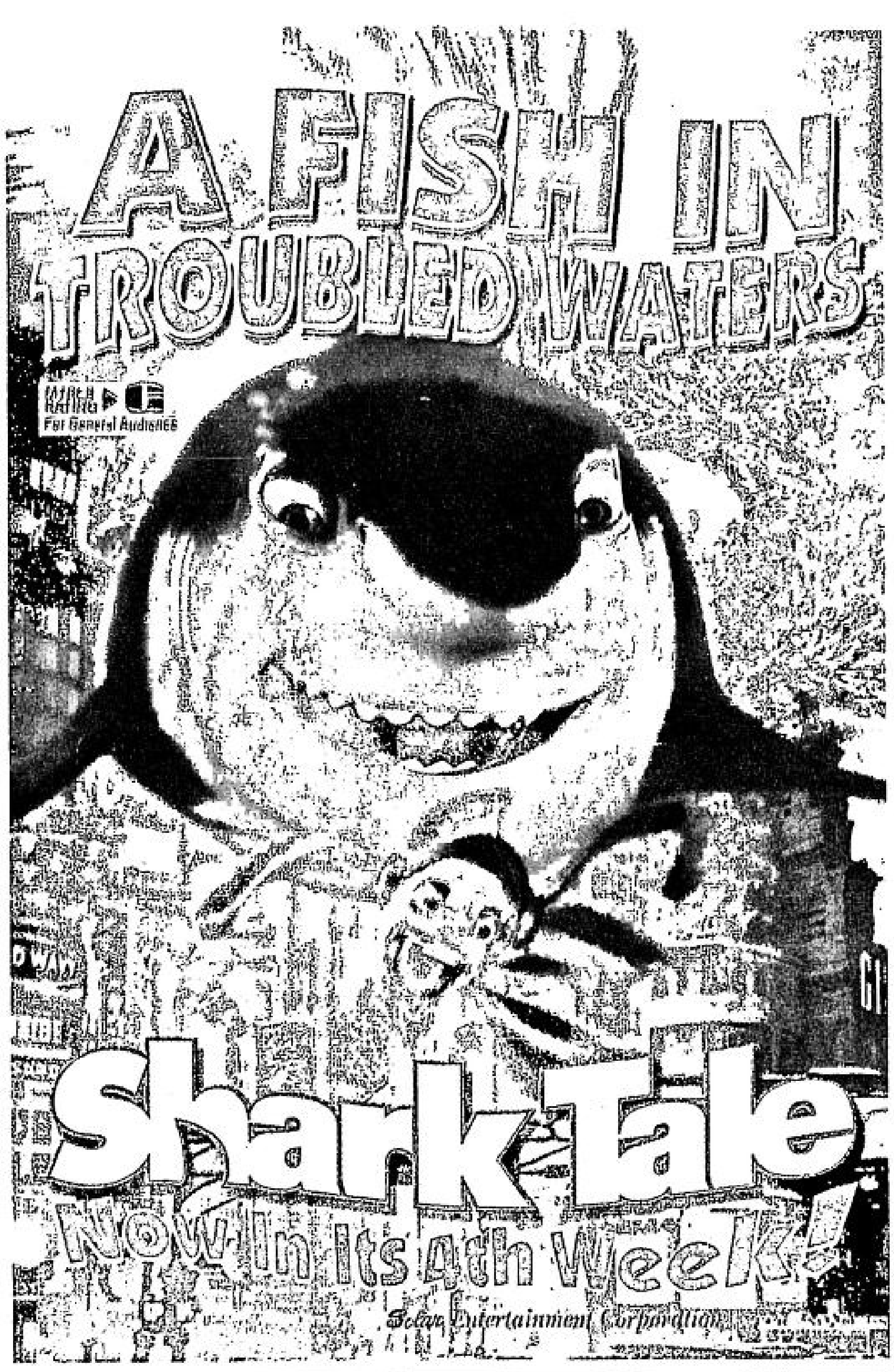
Schumacher said the musical movie goes far deeper into the characters than the stage production on which it is based, and the film sets are elaborate and costumes extravagant.

“Part of what we owe the audience is the shameless and swooning glamour of Paris in the 1870s,” Schumacher said.

Shameless? Swooning? Sounds like Hollywood at Oscar time.

Reuters

JOEL Schumacher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Now In Its 4th Week!
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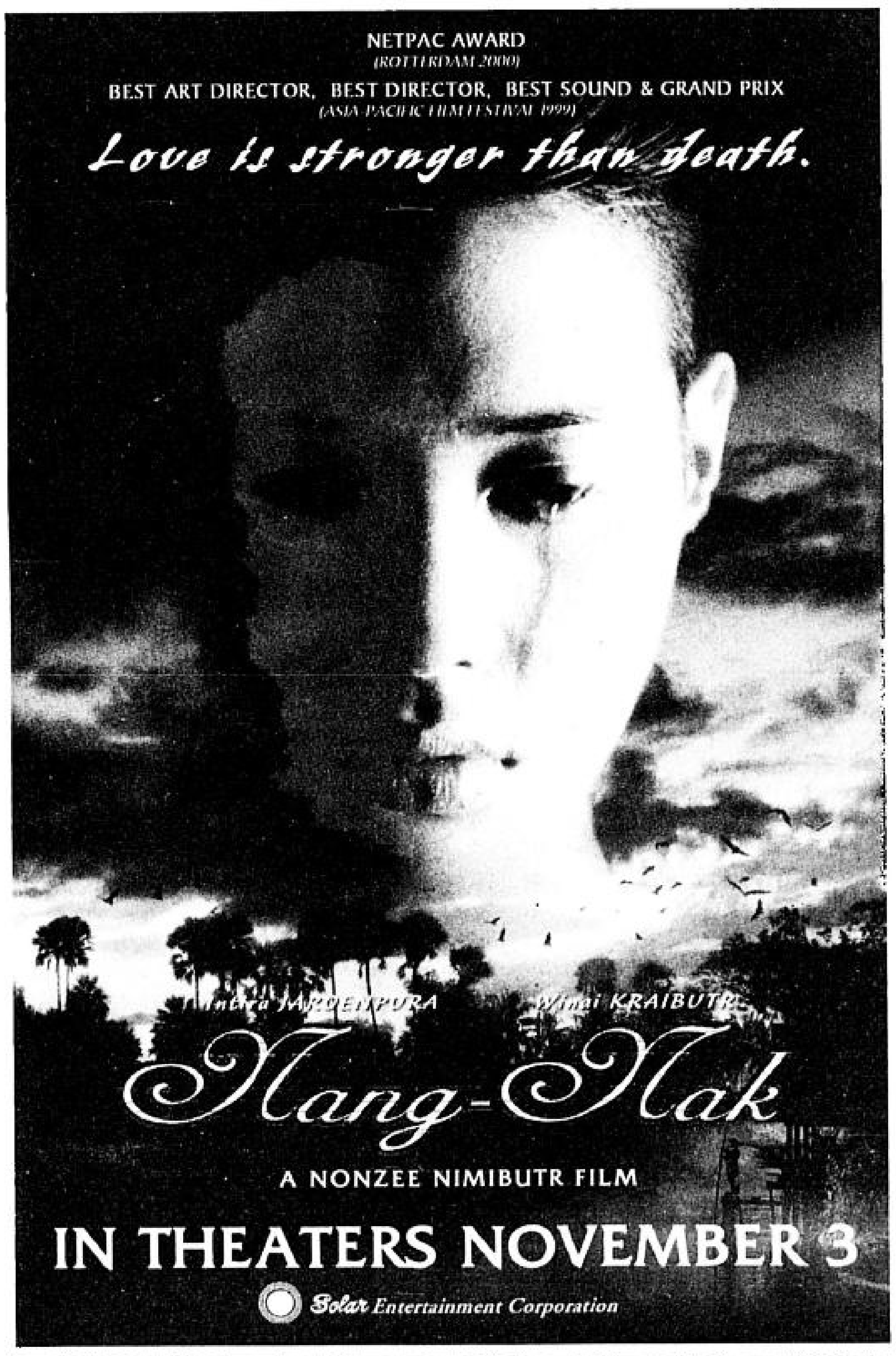
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Love is stronger than death.
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Nang-Nak
A NONZEE NIMIBUTR FILM
IN THEATERS NOVEMBER 3
Solar Entertainment Corporation

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KIDNAPPED KIDNAPPED KIDNAPPED
WHAT YOU ARE HOLDING COULD SAVE THEM
CELLULAR
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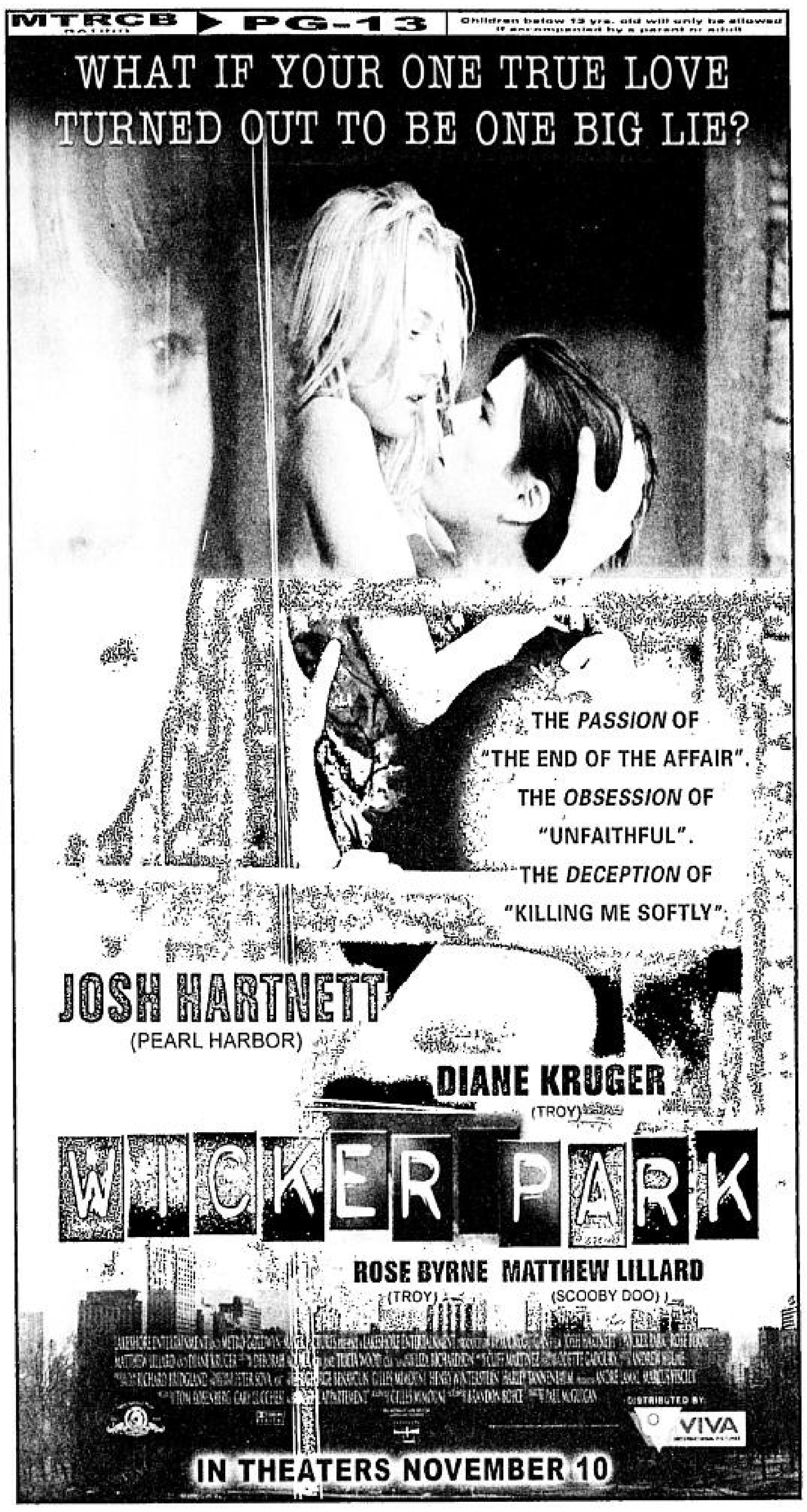
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WHAT IF YOUR ONE TRUE LOVE TURNED OUT TO BE ONE BIG LIE?
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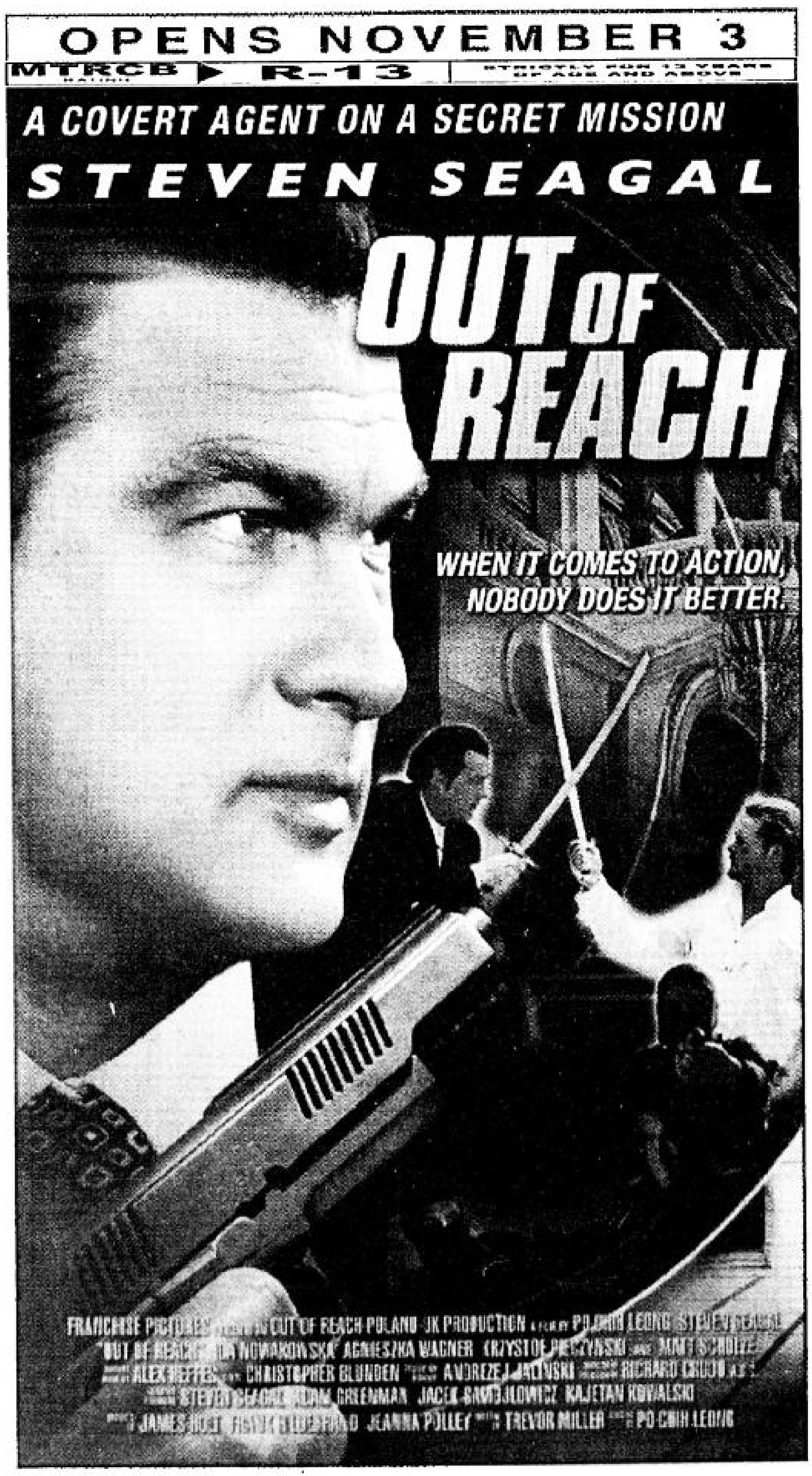
OPENS NOVEMBER 3
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A COVERT AGENT ON A SECRET MISSION
STEVEN SEAGAL
OUT OF REACH
WHEN IT COMES TO ACTION, NOBODY DOES IT BETTER.

'Ray' kicks off battle for Oscar nominations

SHOO-IN. Jamie Foxx is expected to be nominated for playing the legendary singer.

LOS ANGELES—When the movie "Ray," about legendary singer Ray Charles, hits US theaters this week, the battle for Oscars nominations will take center stage as well.

"Ray" is the first of the award season's major movies to roll into theaters backed by a big campaign for the film industry's top honors, the Academy Awards, which are handed out in February.

Early buzz is that comic actor Jamie Foxx is a shoo-in for a best actor nomination for playing the musician who overcame blindness, heroin addiction and poverty to lay the foundation of soul music and become one of America's most beloved entertainers.

Oscar handicappers say they expect the best actor race to be the most competitive. But for now, all the talk is mere speculation because as the movies play over the next four months, this year's contest will change many times.

"This is the fun part of the race, speculating wildly," said Tom O'Neil, host of award show tracker GoldDerby.com.

This week, Foxx wins the attention. In a recent interview, he said he sees his role as a culmination not only of years of stand-up comedy and acting but also learning to play piano and singing in gospel choirs.

"If I hadn't taken piano, I couldn't have done the 96 music cues. If I hadn't been a musician, I couldn't have played the songs. If I hadn't had the acting . . . you wouldn't get to Ray Charles, and not just the singer, but the man," he said.

Most of "Ray" covers the decades in which Charles rose to fame with hits like "I Got a Woman" and "Hit the Road Jack." He crisscrossed genres from jazz and rhythm and blues to country and western and he mixed sexual lyrics with a gospel sound.

Charles also abused drugs and kept a string of mistresses, and "Ray" does not shy away from his dark side.

Voters at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which awards the Oscars, have recently favored unflinching performances like last year's best actress award winner Charlize Theron, who played a serial killer in "Monster."

That should help Foxx's position. But other actors in biographical films figure into the competition including Liam Neeson as sex researcher Alfred Kinsey in "Kinsey" and Mexico's Gael Garcia Bernal playing a young Che Guevara in "The Motorcycle Diaries."

Also touted as possible nominees are Leonardo DiCaprio playing young Howard Hughes in "The Aviator," and Johnny Depp playing "Peter Pan" creator J.M. Barrie in "Finding Neverland." Both are backed by Oscar powerhouse Miramax Films and its boss, Harvey Weinstein.

Also on the early lists are Jude Law in the upcoming thriller "Closer," Kevin Bacon in "The Woodsman," Don Cheadle for "Hotel Rwanda," Paul Giamatti in "Sideways," Javier Bardem for "The Sea Inside" and Christian Bale in "The Machinist."

'RAY'/A4-3

MOVIE GUIDE
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Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

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3 (DTS) RESERVED

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1 THREE
2 (DTS) SKY CAPTAIN
3 (DOLBY) HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
4 THE DOLL MASTERS

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(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
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4 THE DOLL MASTERS

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2 OPEN WATER
3 (DOLBY) TOOLBOX MURDER

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
2 TUKSO SI CHARITO
3 (DTS) THREE
4 SKY CAPTAIN
5 THE DOLL MASTER

Mega Center Mall
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1 TUKSO SI CHARITO
2 HAUNTED SPIRIT-2
3 (DTS) OPEN WATER
4 (DOLBY) LADDER 49

Fiesta World Mall
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2 WIMBLEDON
3 WHITE CHICKS
4 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS

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1 RAISING HELEN
2 HEAVEN'S POND
3 (DOLBY) SHARK TALE
4 (DTS) THUNDERBIRD

Jade Cinema
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2 THE DOLL MASTER
3 (DTS ES) HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
4 GODSEND

Cine Nepo
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4 (DTS) THUNDERBIRD

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2 SHARK TALE

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
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SM City Cebu Cinema 6
SM Pampanga Cinema 3

HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS MTRCB Rating: PG 13
SM City Cebu Cinema 1
SM City Iloilo Cinema 3
SM City Pampanga Cinema 5
SM City Baguio Cinema 2
SM City Lucena Cinema 2

SHARK TALE MTRCB Rating: G
SM City Bacoor Cinema 1
SM City Davao Cinema 6
SM City Cebu Cinema 3
SM City Lucena Cinema 1
SM City Iloilo Cinema 1
SM City Cagayan Cinema 3

RESIDENT EVIL
MTRCB Rating R13
SM City Marilao Cinema 1
SM City Cagayan Cinema 1
SM City Baguio Cinema 3
SM City Iloilo Cinema 4
SM City Dasmariñas Cinema 4
SM City Pampanga Cinema 4

OPEN WATER
MTRCB Rating: R 13
SM City Bacoor Cinema 8
SM City Iloilo Cinema 8
SM City Davao Cinema 5
SM City Lucena Cinema 4

THE PUNISHER
MTRCB Rating. PG 13
SM City Cagayan Cinema 4
SM City Iloilo Cinema 5
SM City Baguio Cinema 1
SM City Cebu Cinema 5

SKY CAPTAIN AND THE WORLD OF TOMORROW
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5 THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT

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2 THE DOLL MASTER
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4 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS

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3 SHARK TALE
4 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
5 THE NOTEBOOK
6 THREE

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2 THE DOLL MASTER
3 GODSEND
4 THREE
5 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS

IMUS 471-8188 / 875-5858
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2 THE DOLL MASTER
3 TUKSO SI...CHARITO 2
4 THE SIN
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6 ROOM SERVICE

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2 TUKSO SI...CHARITO 2
3 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
4 SKY CAPTAIN
5 RESIDENT EVIL 2
6 THE DOLL MASTER

ILOILO 336-8070 / 78
1 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
2 RESIDENT EVIL 2
3 SECRETARY
4 OPEN WATER
5 BIG FISH
6 RESIDENT EVIL 2

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Pages B4, B6 to B12

Sunday BIZ

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph

Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**

Dad and lola gave him ingredients for success

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

IN THE Pedro family, the boys had nowhere else to go but into business.

So to business went Cecilio K. Pedro, who eventually made a name for himself for putting out Hapee toothpaste, the first to be manufactured by a Filipino company.

Pedro competed in an arena where the players were multinationals with huge cash boxes for advertising.

He, on the other hand, was just a small entrepreneur who dared to dream big.

Pedro says he learned the business at the feet of his father, who was a part owner of the company that sold Birch Tree milk.

It was from him that he learned the value of discipline.

"He led by example. He would be at work by 8 a.m. and come home at 7:30," recalls Pedro of his dad's routine.

He combined that with the Christian values handed down by his grandmother to become the businessman he is today.

PEDRO does not want his only son to work in his business as it is better for the young Pedro to widen his horizons and experiences outside first.

FIRST JOB

Pedro says his father did not ask him to work in the family business, as many Chinese are wont to do.

Pedro instead went on the route to self-employment. But his father supported him.

He started when he was in high school at the Hope Christian High School in the late '60s.

He borrowed a few hundred pesos from his father to buy a box of ballpens, which he sold to his classmates.

It did not take long for him to lose his money and goods, because he sold on credit. Nobody paid him back.

That experience taught him an important lesson: "Credit is good but I need cash."

He shelved his entrepreneurial visions and focused on his studies, eventually getting a degree in management from the Ateneo de Manila University.

Unfazed by his first failure, he went into business once more, setting up a hardware store along Alonzo Street, Manila with a classmate.

Competition was so tough that the hardware had to offer long repayment periods, just to make a sale.

This put a strain on their finances, thus, they decided to shift to manufacturing in the late '70s.

He and a couple of friends went to Japan to look for opportunities, and came upon a company selling cheap equipment.

The equipment made aluminum tubes used by toothpaste makers at the time.

He believed in the prospects enough that he borrowed P50,000 from his parents to buy the equipment.

Thus, on Feb. 14, 1977, Aluminum Container Inc. was born. For one year, it had no business.

The time was spent knocking on the doors of multinationals offering their facilities.

These included the Philippine Refining Co., now called Unilever and Colgate-Palmolive Phils.

"For one year we had no business. Every week I was talking to their purchaser and packaging development officers," Pedro recalls.

Finally, he was given a small order. And the orders grew from there.

"It's really like that in business. *Kailangan matiyaga ka* (You have to persevere)," he notes.

In 1981, his partner decided to pursue other interests but Pedro continued on with the company. Aluminum Container did well for almost 10 years but in 1986, one corporate decision ended a decade of Pedro's hard work.

The multinational firms decided to stop using aluminum tubes and shifted to laminated plastic tubes.

With 90 percent of their business centered on toothpaste, and with lots of aluminum tubes left in their hands, Pedro had no choice but to close shop in early 1986.

For almost two years, Pedro's factory was closed.

"I was 33 years old and I was planning my life. I recalled the story of the founder of Colgate who was a Christian and he was selling toothpaste," he says.

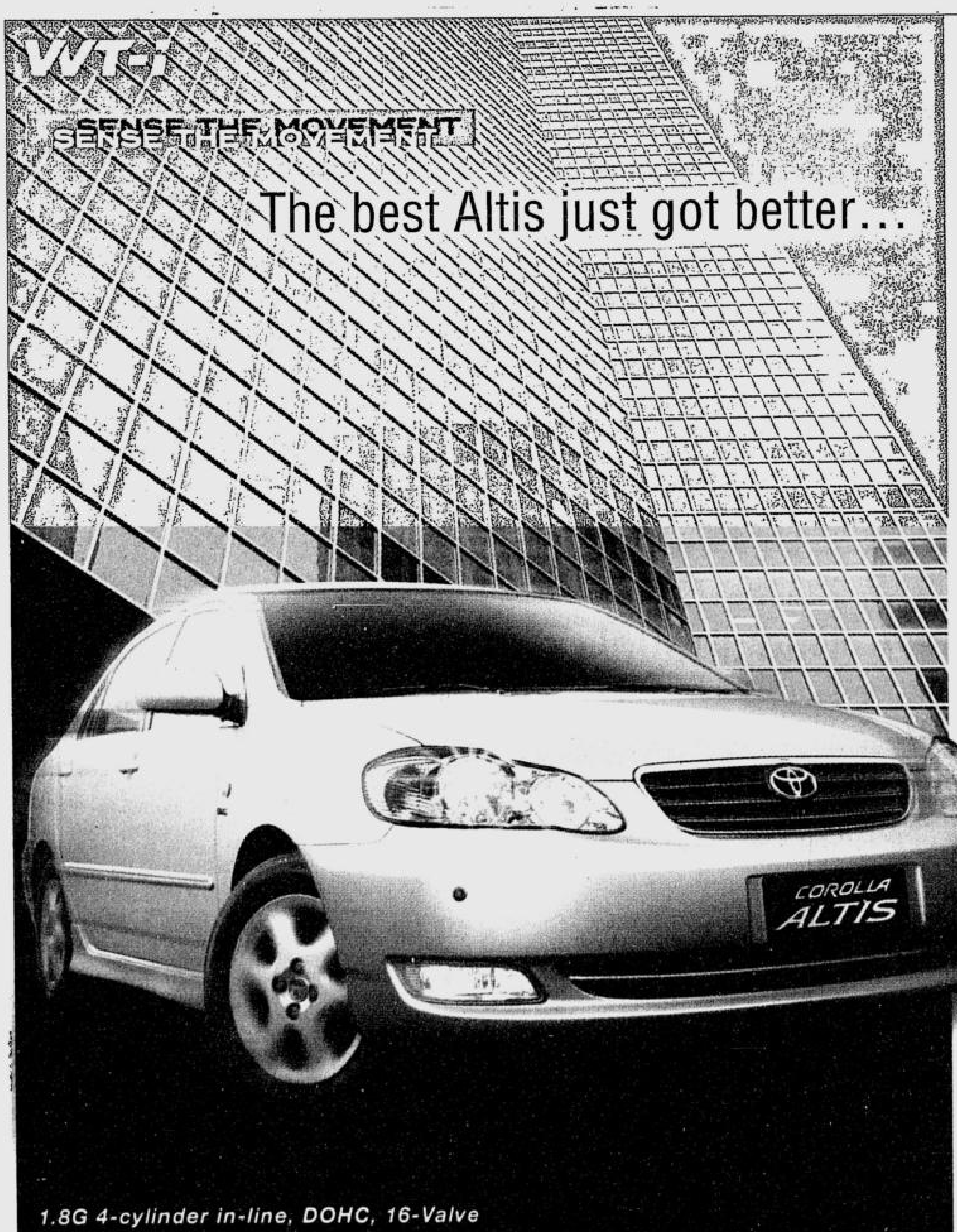
The Colgate founder was giving 90 percent of his earnings for tithing.

A Christian since he was young, Pedro says he prayed and asked if this was what God want-

DAD/B2

JECCOY
Lyric

PHOTO at left shows Cecilio Pedro (seated in the middle) with his high school friends at the Hope Christian High School, Batch 1971. Right photo shows the same group, arranged in the same positions, 20 years later. All became successful.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SENSE THE MOVEMENT
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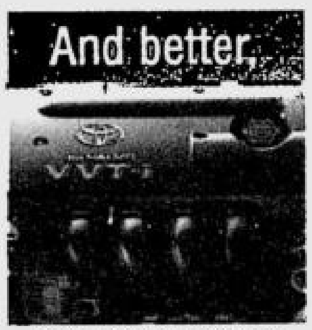
Passion



1.8 VVT-i engine dramatically improves driving performance and fuel efficiency

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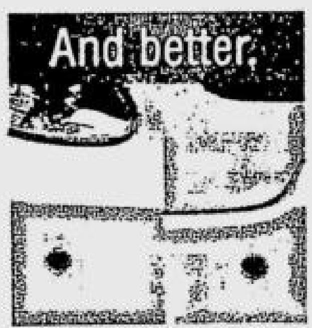

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TOYOTA

SM's Tessie Sy makes Fortune's list of most powerful women

TERESITA Sy, eldest daughter of taipan Henry Sy, lands Fortune Magazine's list of 50 most powerful women in business outside the US, for the second consecutive year.

Sy first landed the list last year where she ranked No. 45. This year she fell two notches to No. 47.

She is the sole Filipina on the list and one of only four from Southeast Asia. The three others from the region are from Singapore.

The write-up on Sy states she "may not share her father Henry's taste for loud Hawaiian shirts, but she's proving that her skill in the boardroom at family empire SM Prime Hodings is at least the equal of her wily octogenarian dad. With its 18 malls across the archipelago, SM Prime, under Sy's hand, seems to keep on growing. Profits this year are expected to top $80 million, on revenue of $2 billion, fueled by a resurgent Filipino economy and Sy's addition of two more malls to the portfolio. Next year's goal: the company's biggest expansion yet—three more complexes, including one that will become the group's flagship, the 4.2 million-square-foot Mall of Asia." (Margie Q. Espino)

The list is featured in the Oct. 25 issue of Fortune. At the top post is Anne Lauvergeon, who chairs Areva, the world's largest nuclear power company. She ranked No. 3 last year.

SM GROUP of companies president Teresita Sy Coson

At the No. 2 spot is Xie Qihua, chair and president of Shanghai Baosteel Group, who ranked No. 16 last year.

No. 3 is Marjorie Scardino, CEO of Pearson, who ranked No. 1 last year.

Former world banker now banks on organic vinegar

By Emir Emano Gamis
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

THANKS to the fame of the virgin coconut oil (VCO), the coconut is enjoying revitalized attention.

The VCO is said to have various health benefits ranging from skin and hair moisturizing to helping fight serious diseases like the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome.

But for those who live in the province, the coconut has long been appreciated as a tree of life.

In the coconut-rich Bicol region, the half-mature coconut fruit, with meat still thin and soft, is believed to help increase a man's semenal volume.

The water inside the fruit is also helpful in cleansing the urinary tract.

Dying art

Also, farmers used to make a native drink from the coconut sap called "tuba," which is collected by clipping the stem that contains flowers and baby coconuts and putting a collection vessel where the sap will run into.

Tuba used to be the staple in sprees and social gatherings, but gathering it has now become an almost extinct art and the tuba-drinking culture has turned passé because of commercialized drinking.

Tuba can also be turned into vinegar as it can be put in an earthen jar and be naturally fermentized.

For Linda Corsiga, owner of Sorsogon Food Enterprises, makers of Lola Conching coco nectar organic vinegar, the tuba and the vinegar derived from it have been part of her life.

Her mother, Lola Conching, now 83, used to serve freshly gathered tuba as an organic alcoholic drink in a small bar that they had in Bulan town, Sorsogon, their hometown, to help their father raise her and her four sisters.

Lola Conching would place the unconsumed tuba, which could no longer be drunk, in earthen jars and allow it to ferment naturally.

World of vinegar

"I lived in the world of vinegar. We were not used to using vinegar aside from the one from tuba," Corsiga says.

So when she retired in 1999 from the International Finance Corp., the private sector arm of the World Bank Group, she naturally gravitated toward a coconut-related business.

At first she enrolled in an apiary course at the University of the Philippines in Los Baños and with the encouragement of one of her professors, who told her that the blossoms of the coconut tree are among the major sources of nectar, she had a honeybee farm with a total of 45 Australian honeybees.

Unfortunately, because she was not a hands-on beekeeper, all her honeybees died, along with her investments.

Organic

Finally, with the suggestion of her husband to convert their coconut farm from copra-making into organic vinegar-making, she ventured into a familiar turf: organic coconut vinegar making.

Corsiga also joined the Organic Producer Trade Association (Opta) to learn more about the organic food industry and built a processing plant in San Rafael, Fabrica, Bulan.

SO FAR, foreigners have bought more organic vinegar than Filipinos.

The Bureau of Food and Drugs granted her a license to operate on Nov. 28, 2003.

Now she has turned a 10.6-hectare farm in Bulan into an organic agriculture and aquaculture farm.

Coconut trees are planted in about five hectares, where four tuba gatherers are assigned 30 coconut trees each to collect from.

"After gathering the tuba, we measure its sugar content in our factory; if it passes the required level, it is put in a food-grade container for a minimum of 45 to 60-day fermentation period," Corsiga says.

When the required acidity level is achieved, the vinegar is then filtered, pasteurized and then bottled depending on the customer's preference.

Product variety

Lola Conching's vinegar comes in variety: in 750 ml bottles, virgin (unfiltered/unpasteurized) sells for P80; with raw wild honey, P175; with lemon grass, P80; with garlic, P80; with chili and ginger, P85.

In 350 ml bottles, classic sells for P40; virgin, P50; with honey, P100; with lemon grass, P45; with garlic, P50; with chili and ginger, P60.

The vinegar can be used for cooking, salad dressing, dipping, marinating and pickling, and requires only a relatively small amount when used in flavoring.

Corsiga says she usually delivers her products in organic and health stores in Manila, either through consignment or cash basis.

One of her aims, she says, is to help reduce people's exposure to chemically treated food.

At the Green & Determined (G&D) Organic Haven located at 424-C E. Rodriguez Ave., Quezon City, the most popular is the classic variety because of its multipurpose use, according to the store's floor manager Jeniffer Taghoy. Among the store customers' uses for the classic, Taghoy says, are as salad dressing, a way to spice up their "sinigang," as substitute for apple cider vinegar and for body detoxification.

"I have joined exhibits and trade shows, that one way or another, your product is being recognized in the market," Corsiga says.

Two BFAD-recognized laboratories, the Food Development Center of the National Food Authority and the SGS Philippines Inc., have found the vinegar's permanganate oxidation number high, indicative of the purity of the product.

Beta carotene, calcium, iron, sodium, phosphorous, magnesium and high potassium content were also found in the coco vinegar.

Foreign market

Ironically, foreigners noticed her product more than Filipinos did.

"It's difficult in the sense that not all Filipinos appreciate organic products yet. They would always compare your product with the non-organic ones. The tendency is for them to buy the cheaper ones," she pointed out.

But an American customer, who prefers unfiltered and unpasteurized coco vinegar, has ordered twice from her in June and September.

A prospective client, who is into Filipino food distribution in California, New York, New Jersey and San Francisco, has expressed interest in her products.

A prospective European client has asked for another laboratory test to confirm the presence of a certain component in the coco vinegar before making an order.

"I think we're still in infancy stage when it comes to the appreciation of organic foods. They're already advance in the US, Europe and Japan," Corsiga noted.

"I'm still groping but my peers in Opta are telling me that I'm lucky because although I'm new (in the business) I have already exported my product," she added.

When asked why she did not venture into the VCO business trend, she said: "I have no plans of going into virgin coconut oil [business], they're already too many there. I would rather help develop other products that are vinegar-related."

After all, she says, she grew up in the world of vinegar.

Volunteerism keeps 'bayanihan' spirit alive

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

IN THE olden days, neighbors would happily hoist a family's *bahay kubo* on their shoulders and carry it to its new location in true *bayanihan* spirit.

No money is involved, just the community's wishes that the relocating family would do well in its new locale.

Companies and organizations strive to keep that *bayanihan* tradition alive by encouraging their employees to lend time, effort and a little money to laudable programs in the areas of environment, education, health and entrepreneurship.

One of these is HSBC Philippines, where volunteerism is a way of life for its employees, starting from CEO Warner Manning.

Saturday mornings, for instance, will find a group of HSBC employees telling stories, leading a science experiment or conducting math drills in HSBC's four READiscovery centers.

The READiscovery pilot sites at Kalawaan Elementary School, Libis Elementary School, Alabang Elementary School and Marcela Agoncillo Elementary School provide these public school children access to the latest in children's books, audio-visual equipment, computers, toys, puzzles and games to inspire creativity and shared learning.

By lending their time, HSBC employees maximize the benefits of the READiscovery centers for the good of the children. At the same time, they put a more useful twist to their Saturday mornings, which would have been otherwise spent just sleeping or going to some gimmick.

They not only help the public school students read and learn more, employees also go home after two to three hours feeling much better about themselves.

HSBC assistant vice president Laine Santana adds that as many as 40 HSBC employees also join in "diversity weekends," where they get the chance to involve themselves in projects of the Worldwide Fund for Nature, such as mangrove planting and the Dugong Research and Conservation Project.

They come at largely their own expense, but employees see it as an investment in knowledge in environmental preservation, one of the bank's pet causes.

Protecting the environment is also a major concern of the employees of oil refinery Petron Corp.

Every year, Petron employees take part in Kontra Kalat sa Dagat, the coastal cleanup of the shorelines of Bataan, where Petron's refinery is located.

Volunteers help pick up trash, serve as data recorders, assist the medical team or help disseminate information.

Employees also participate in reforestation efforts by buying mangrove seedlings and planting them in land and coastal habitats, in cooperation with national and local agencies.

Petron volunteers likewise join school and home visits to check up on the progress of some 1,000 indigent children in 90 schools that Petron helps through its Tulong Aral ng Petron program, in partnership with the Departments of Social Welfare and Education.

These are just three of 14 major company outreach programs, under the umbrella program of Volunteerism in Action, where volunteerism efforts are nurtured and recognized.

By putting company resources behind these programs through Petron Foundation, the company provides a venue for its employees to make a positive contribution to a better society.

And it's not only the employees and the communities that benefit from these efforts. The companies do, too, even if these are not immediately reflected on the bottom line.

A 2000 study conducted by the Philippine Business for Social Progress, in partnership with the City University of New York and the American Chamber Foundation, showed that employee volunteering builds teamwork skills among employees.

It also improves a company's relationships with the community; boosts employee morale; improves a company's public image and finally, helps create healthier communities.

Harnessing this employee power, however, takes deliberate and organized effort on the part of the company management and the employees themselves.

Unless it is espoused as a company policy, employee volunteer efforts will go the way of many other outreach programs—a mere flash in the pan.

HSBC deputy CEO Martin Cook zeroes in on a cookie recipe

Dad and lola gave him ingredients . . .

From page B1

ed him to be—the Colgate of the Philippines.

He knew at that time that the only way to get his factory going again was to make his own toothpaste.

Everybody else was shifting to laminated plastic.

He looked for a partner who could give him the technology to go into the toothpaste business.

First he talked to an American firm, then a Japanese. He was instead just given training and technology by Sun Star, the biggest toothbrush maker in Japan.

He created a new name for the company—Lamoiyan which is the Chinese version of his grandmother's name—Irene Lim.

Fully aware of the strength and size of PRC and Colgate-Palmolive, Pedro's strategy was to compete by offering a cheaper alternative.

With regards to the distribution, Pedro had to go around himself and talked to distributors even in provinces.

With a limited budget for promotion, he spent wisely and sponsored the 1988 Philippine Olympic Team.

It created tremendous brand awareness which eventually translated into sales.

And since the brand was seen in an international venue, most everyone thought Hapee Toothpaste was made by a big company.

Sales of the product went up and Hapee Toothpaste became known.

Cecilio remains a dedicated and untiring businessman, even if Hapee is no longer a small-time brand.

He balances his career with his marriage to wife Irene, and his relationship with only son Joel, who would soon graduate with a Marketing degree from De La Salle University.

Deaf-mute 'haven'

One of the unique things about Lamoiyan is it is one of the companies willing to employ disabled people, particularly the deaf-mute, who account for about 20 percent of Lamoiyan's employees.

Pedro has always lived and abided by the words of the Lord: "Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers, that you do unto me."

The deaf-mute are provided their own living quarters within the company compound.

Pedro was invited to join the Deaf Evangelical Alliance Foundation Inc. (DEAF) a few years ago. It is an organization established to take care of the needs of the deaf.

DEAF operates a school in Cavinti, Laguna where deaf people are given free college education.

In 1992, Pedro was chosen as DEAF chair. He proposes to establish more schools for the deaf in the next few years.

Religious upbringing

The words of God became an important part of Pedro's personality. He greatly owes it to his grandmother who inculcated religiosity in her family.

"I encounter difficulties because there are things that we can't do and there are things that we won't do. We always comply with the rules. I see to it that all our books are 'clean.' In fighting the giant companies, there are dirty tricks. But we won't resort to those. We would fight in an honest, legal way. Being a Christian is not easy; we are labeled—folks are stricter with us. We are tempted more. But we can also share the values in many ways—directly or indirectly. We can influence other businessmen through our own example," he says.

And how does he assess his status today? "We don't have to be very successful. Little successes will be enough because the Lord who made us a success in the first place will translate little success to a more humane basis. What is more important is to share values and contribute to the most needy."

More RP homes in remote areas using sun power

By Abigail L. Ho

BEING in the tropics has its advantages.

For one, it's easy to get a tan on a hot summer day at the beach.

But more importantly, Filipinos can use the power of that big, burning ball of gas to improve their lives.

This is why the state-run Philippine National Oil Co. embarked on its Solar Home Distribution Project.

Its aim is to bring electricity to far-flung communities at reasonable prices, using solar power.

Power to the people

The project is funded by a 5.59-million-Euro (about P431 million) grant from the Netherlands, plus some counterpart funding from the PNOC.

In keeping with the government's goal of providing electricity to all, even to residents of far-flung communities, PNOC has so far installed P70.3 million worth of solar home systems in 475 barangays.

These solar power systems will provide electricity to some 3,526 households, mostly situated in remote locations unserved by traditional power sources.

PNOC president Eduardo Mañalac said the whole project would entail the installation of 15,100 units of solar home systems during its five-year run.

These solar home systems would provide power to barangays in Regions 1-7 and the Cordillera Administrative Region.

These areas were identified in a market survey that the Department of Energy conducted in 1995, as most in need of the solar panels.

Next in line for installation are areas in the Negros province.

Affordable costs

While the solar home systems being installed under the program do not come for free, households in covered areas can get the power systems at very affordable prices due to the grant and the PNOC subsidy.

For roughly P19,000, a household can already avail itself of the complete solar home system package.

This includes a solar panel, mounting, battery, wiring, lights and other fixtures.

The package also includes free installation and four free maintenance visits within a year of installation.

This may also be treated as a long-term investment as the solar panel alone can last up to 20 years.

Plus, interested households do not have to pay for the package in cash.

They can tap local cooperatives and other financial intermediaries for financing schemes with reasonable terms.

They can get soft loans with maturities ranging from a year to five years, for example.

For a monthly amortization of only around P400, for instance, a household that will get a solar home systems can get rid of regular cash outlays for dry cell batteries and small gas lamps, popularly known as the "kinkimax."

Long-term benefits

Mañalac said the installation of just P70.3 million worth of solar home systems had already done wonders for beneficiaries in some of the remotest barangays in the country.

"We are proud that we have reached the most remote of the barangays, and with this initiative, we know that these communities are now becoming productive and economically active, given the extended daylight they are now experiencing," he added.

The installation of more solar home systems in the near future, therefore, should further extend the benefits that electricity gave to residents of far-flung communities.

Mañalac said the project likewise made the government more creative in thinking of more ways to provide electricity to people living in places not served by the national power grid.

This also supported President Macapagal-Arroyo's call for the development and use of more indigenous power resources, to reduce our dependence on the very volatile fossil fuels.

"This encourages us more to explore ways, source other means, and develop other energy resources so we could reach those impossibly-hard-to-connect-to-grid areas," Mañalac said.

Worthy of praise

Apart from lighting up the lives of thousands of Filipinos, the PNOC project also gave the country the prestige of bagging the top prize in the Energy Globe Awards in November last year.

The award is seen as the "Oscar" of the energy industry, the most presti-

MORE/ B5

HOUSEHOLD which uses the solar system of the PNOC

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2GO Express offers 1-3-6 delivery service

2GO, the freight division of Aboitiz Transport System (ATS), is now offering express delivery tailored to handle a customer's specific needs requiring quick-response solutions.

Called 1-3-6, the service allows the customer to have his loose cargo delivered in one, three or six days without having to worry about flight or vessel schedules and at a simplified and cost-efficient rate.

"No package is too small, no schedule is too tight for us not to be able to deliver according to our clients' time specifications," ATS president and CEO Endika Aboitiz said. "With 1-3-6, we are giving our customers the power to choose their lead time."

The express delivery comes as part of a neat package launching 2GO, the new brand handling ATS's cargo operations. The packaging, explained Aboitiz, positions 2GO in the market as a company taking a more integrated and novel approach in moving freight and cargo faster and more efficiently.

Aboitiz said that being an archipelago, our country needs an efficient and cost-effective system of goods distribution by air, land and sea so that it can successfully compete globally.

Efficient distribution, according to Aboitiz, is "critical to the continuous flow or supply of the basic essentials of life such as food, drink and shelter as much as luxury products. It makes possible market diversity and consumer choice thereby driving competitiveness, jobs and progress."

With the express delivery, 2GO hopes to help manufacturing, distribution or trading companies reduce the time needed to deliver goods from the point of production to the point of consumer contact.

Looking at lead time alone, the actual production itself, according to traders, eats up a mere 30 percent of it.

It is inbound and outbound logistics that account for customers' waiting time. The bulk of operation costs, therefore, is due to the sourcing and delivering of goods, they said.

NEW Toy Kingdom branch. A new branch of Toy Kingdom opens at SM Makati. It is the 12th outlet of the toy store. Photo shows singers Rachelle Anne Go (white shirt) and Mark Bautista (red shirt) with Barbie Anneliese, Toy Kingdom's Rose Dy Lim (2nd from left), Cecille Liu and Eric Lim with little Toy Kingdom customers.

Supermarket chain opens more stores

ROBINSONS Supermarket Corp. (RSC) is set to open six more stores around the country.

To date, new Robinsons Supermarket branches opened in Araneta Square, Caloocan City on March 19, Robinsons Mall in Angeles, Pampanga on Sept. 17; Good Earth Mall in Avenida, Manila on Oct. 8; and Metro Bacolod on Oct. 15; Susano Complex in Novaliches, Quezon City on Oct. 27 and another branch in Tandang Sora, Quezon City is set to open next month.

The addition of six stores this year brings to 20 the total number of Robinsons Supermarket branches located around the country. There are now 11 branches in Metro Manila, five in Luzon and four in the Visayas.

"We are moving closer to households and reaching more people, letting them experience what Robinsons Supermarket has to offer—shopping convenience, complete product choices, value-for-money merchandise and excellent customer service," says Ronnie T. Ong, general manager and first vice president of Robinsons Supermarket.

Robinsons Supermarket store sizes range from 1,000 to 3,000 square meters.

With additional outlets, Robinsons Supermarket bring to more people its Fresh Department, specially improved to make the store the top-of-mind supermarket of choice in the fresh category.

It also focuses on being the provider of low-priced high quality products that Filipinos need with its private label, Supersavers. The store carries various brands most trusted by the public, affording them more choices and more practical options.

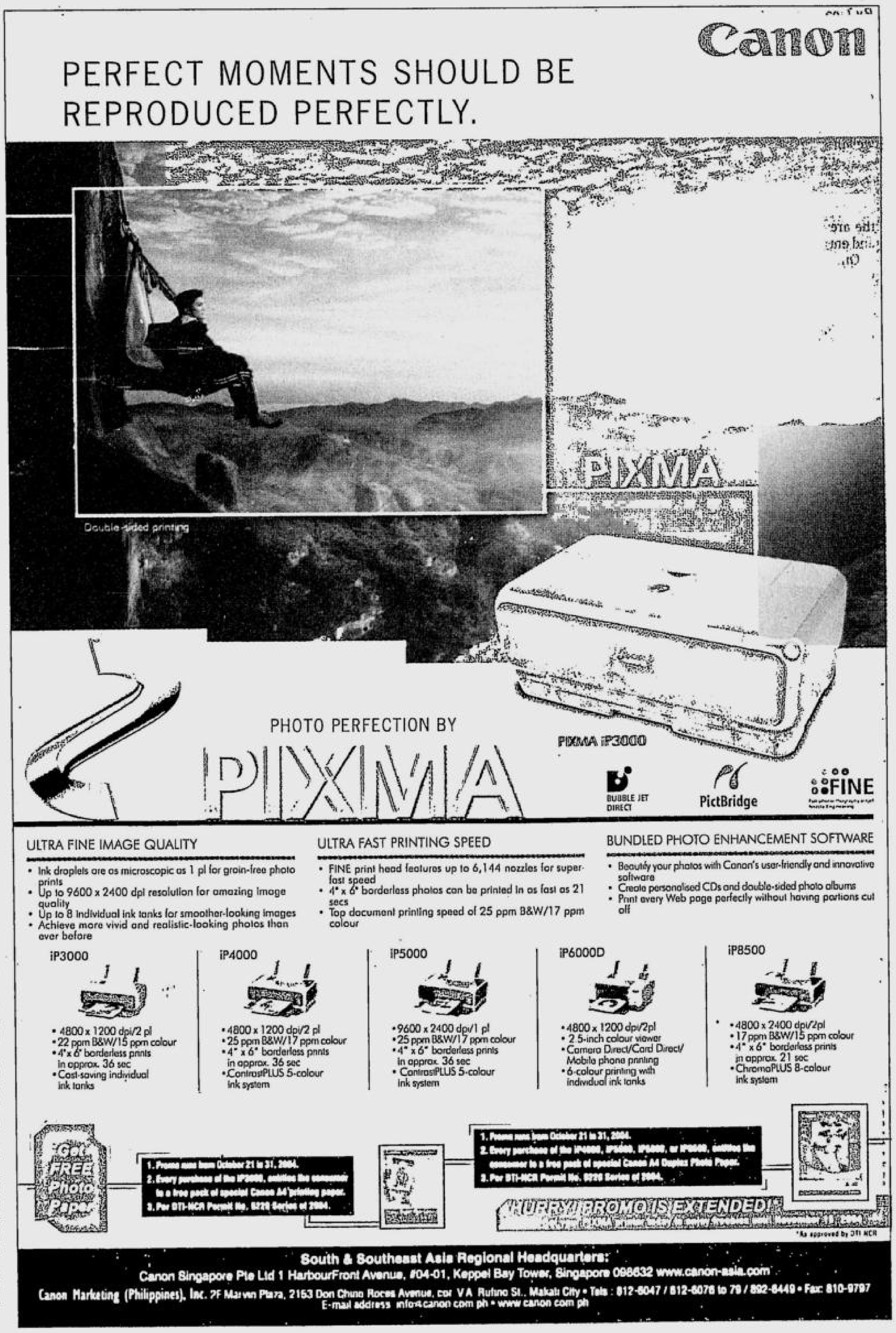
The store's staff ensures that shoppers are properly assisted and their concerns appropriately addressed.

To sustain consumer interest and loyalty, Robinsons Supermarket implements year-round valuable product promotions through tie-ups with its suppliers.

There is the WOW Promotion featuring price drops on favorite buys. For new stores, on the other hand, Faith Gokongwei Lim, AVP Merchandising says " In every new store, we provide the community special promos like budget packs, *regalo bawat resibo* (gift with purchase) and a crazy sale with promo discounts."

Other ongoing promotion include the San Miguel Corp. Pourin' Prizes and Pick Ups promo, Yuletide Gift Choices, Wow Pre-Christmas Sale from Oct. 29 to Dec. 2, Christmas Fresh Festival starting November and the major Christmas consumer promotion to start this November with over 4 million pesos worth of prizes.

"Our plan is to continue our quest for expansion for supermarket and other formats as well. Hopefully, we would like to target at least five stores for next year. For product lines, we will continue to enhance the supermarket by looking for new concessionaires and introduce fresh ideas into the supermarket format," says Ong.



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Contract Duration	:	December 15, 2004 up to JANUARY 30, 2005
Approved Budget	:	P 18,000,000.00
Source of Funding	:	e-Government Fund

All interested parties may obtain the bidding documents from the BAC-IT Secretariat, c/o Room 605, 6/F, BIR-National Office Bldg., BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City starting November 2, 2004, upon payment of P3,600.00 in cash (non-refundable fee).

Pre-Bid Conference will be held on November 16, 2004, Tuesday at 2:00 p.m., at the Executive Conference Room, 3/F BIR-National Office Building, BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City.

Deadline for the submission of eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals shall be on November 29, 2004, Monday at 1:30 p.m. to be held at the Executive Conference Room, 3/F BIR National Office Building, BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City to be followed by the opening of bids.

All particulars relative to eligibility process, bidding, evaluation of bids, post-qualification and award of contract shall be governed by the applicable provisions of Republic Act No. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act and its implementing rules and regulations.

The BIR assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any excuse or loss that they may incur in the preparation of their bids. The BIR also reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any of the required formality therein and accept the bids most advantageous to the government.

For particulars, please inquire from the BAC-IT Secretariat, thru the Chief, SSTMD-IPQS at Room 302, 3/F, Revenue Computer Center (RCC) Bldg., BIR Compound, BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City or call telephone nos. 981-7085, 927-4101, 981-7079, 981-7080 and 928-3235 (fax) or e-mail us at lilibeth.maranan@bir.gov.ph.

(Sgd.) Atty. LEONOR S. VILLALON-ROGERS
Assistant Commissioner-HRDS
Chairman, BAC-IT

(PDI - Oct. 31 & Nov. 7, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

EMELITA C. GONZALES

This is to inform the public that **EMELITA C. GONZALES**, whose picture apears above, is no longer connected with **CHINA BANKING CORPORATION** effective close of business on 30 September 2004.

Any transaction entered with her in behalf of the Bank will not be honored.

CBC MANAGEMENT

(PDI--Oct. 31, 2004)

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PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL TRADING CORPORATION

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION

The **PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL TRADING CORPORATION Bids and Awards Committee (PITC-BAC)** invites local suppliers, manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors of pharmaceutical products who can meet the following minimum qualifications to apply for **accreditation:**

- In the Pharmaceutical business for at least three (3) years and still in operation
- With Stockholders' Equity or Capital Account of at least **P5 Million** as of December 31, 2003
- Must have valid License to Operate (LTO) issued by the Bureau of Food & Drugs (BFAD) as Drugs Wholesaler/Distributor/Importer
- Such other documentation requirements as stipulated in the Application Form for Accreditation

Accreditation forms shall be available and may be secured from October 25, 2004 to November 15, 2004 at the PITC BAC Secretariat located at the 4th Floor, NDC Building, 116 Tordesillas St. Salcedo Village, Makati City c/o Mrs. Helen R. Muncal upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P500.00.

Deadline for submission of accreditation forms and requirements shall be on November 19, 2004. Accredited suppliers shall be notified in writing by PITC and shall pay the accreditation fee of P5,000.00. Only accredited/eligible suppliers who have paid the accreditation fee will be allowed to participate in PITC projects.

PITC assumes no obligation whatsoever to accredit any firm or entity that does not meet its accreditation and eligibility requirements nor to award any project to any firm or entity on the sole basis of accreditation. Neither shall PITC assume any responsibility to compensate any firm or entity for any amounts or expenses incurred in preparation of accreditation and eligibility forms.

(Sgd.) MARLENE R. LOPEZ
CHAIR - BIDS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

(PDI--Oct. 24 & 31, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Davao del Sur
Municipality of Malalag

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Date: October 31, 2004
World Bank Loan No. 4446 PH
Contract ID No. SP-032-IN-01

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of Local Government Finance and Development and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the Contract for the Construction of *Malalag Public Market, Davao del Sur.* Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits.*
2. The *Municipality of Malalag, Davao del Sur* invites sealed bids from eligible sources for the *Construction of Malalag Public Market.*
3. Bidding documents may be purchased starting *November 1, 2004 to December 1, 2004, between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.* at the *Office of the Municipal Administrator, Malalag, Davao Del Sur* upon payment of a non-refundable fee of *Five Thousand (Php 5,000.00) Pesos*, for each set. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of *Ninety (90) days* after bid opening and must be accompanied by security of *Five Hundred Thousand (PhP 500,000.00) Pesos* in a form of cash, certified check, bank guarantee or its equivalent in a convertible currency, and shall be delivered to the *Office of the Municipal Administrator, Malalag, Davao del Sur* on or before *December 1, 2004 at exactly 10:00 o'clock in the morning* at which time they will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.
5. A pre-bid conference will be held on *November 16, 2004 at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon, at SB Session Hall, Malalag, Davao del Sur.*

(Sgd.) ZAIDA D. CALUMPIANO
BAC Chairman

(PDI – October 31, 2004)

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G/F MWSI Bldg., MWSS Complex
Katipunan Road, Balara, Quezon City, Philippines 1100
Tel. Nos. 435-3366, 920-5521 loc. 3600, 3615, 3616
Fax No. 928-2303 / 433-5629

INVITATION TO BID

The MAYNILAD WATER SERVICES, INC. is inviting interested & qualified suppliers to participate in the sealed bid for the supply and staggered delivery of the following items:

	Quantity	Description
1.	243,000 LM or 1,620 rolls	PETUBING, 25 mm x 150mm
	MWSI Technical Specifications: Section 31015 – Polyethylene Pipes (PE)	
2.	480 sets	VALVE BOX, CI, 600mm with Cover for Gate Valve
	MWSI Technical Specifications: Section 31016 – Cast Iron (CI) Fittings	

Interested Bidders may, beginning **November 3 until November 09, 2004**, obtain further information and secure a complete set of technical specifications and Terms and Conditions (Bid Documents) upon payment of a non-refundable document fee in the amount of P1,000.00, payable to MWSI, at the following address:

PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
Basement, MWSI Office, Katipunan Road, Balara, Quezon City
Tel. No. 435-33-66; Fax No. 928-23-03 / 433-5629

Submission of Bid Proposal, together with all the sealed bidding requirements, is scheduled on **November 16, 2004; 2:00 P.M.**

MWSI reserves the right to reject any or all bid without offering any reasons, waive any and all informalities therein, and accept the bid it deemed most advantageous to the company.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) IGNACIO B. GIMENEZ
SAVP, Corporate Logistics

(PDI – Oct. 30 & 31, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
2330 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, Metro Manila
Bids and Awards Committee

INVITATION TO BID

The Department of Foreign Affairs-Bids and Awards Committee (DFA-BAC) is inviting interested bidders to apply for eligibility and bid for the:

A. DIPLOMATIC POUCH SERVICE CONTRACT
B. FOOD SERVICES CONTRACT

Interested bidders may avail of bid documents from **09-22 November 2004**, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Five Hundred Pesos (Php500.00) to the Cashier's Office, Office of Fiscal Management, 4th Floor, DFA Building, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City. Applications for eligibility shall be evaluated using the "PASS/FAIL" criteria and only the companies certified as eligible by the DFA-BAC shall be allowed to submit bids. Prebid conferences may be held upon determination by the DFA-BAC for purposes of clarifying issues relevant to the bidding process.

ACTIVITY	DIPLOMATIC POUCH SERVICE	FOOD SERVICES
Submission of Sealed Bids	06 December 2004	09 December 2004
Opening of Sealed Bids	06 December 2004	09 December 2004

DFA-BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reasons, and to waive any deficiencies and required formalities embodied therein. DFA-BAC assumes no obligations whatsoever to offset the expenses and/or losses the bidder may have incurred in the preparation of the bids. DFA-BAC further reserves the right to declare a failure of bid, and/or not to award the contract, and makes no assurances that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) FRANKLIN M. EBDALIN
Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs
Chairman, DFA-BAC

(PDI-Oct. 31 & Nov. 7, 2004)

Trans Co
NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION
South Luzon Operation & Maintenance

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID AD NO. TRANSCO 2004-011C

The National Transmission Corporation, South Luzon O&M Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) wishes to invite interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid on the items listed below:

DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 22, 2004; 1:30 PM

SCHEDULE		ITEM DESCRIPTION	PR NUMBER	APPROVED BUDGET
A1	1 LOT	SUPPLY/INSTALL STRUCTURAL FRAME, STEEL DECKS & BEAMS	3ADM-04-306	P 3,120,088.00

NOTE: A Pre-Bidding Conference for Schedules A1 will be held on November 9, 2004; 1:30 PM at the OAVP Conference Room.

Complete sets of Application Form for Eligibility and Bid Documents may be obtained from the Office of the Manager, Administration Division, SL O&M, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P500.00 per schedule starting November 3, 2004. No bid documents will be issued on the date of bidding.

Bids will be received at the Conference Room (OAVP), Transco-SL O&M, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna until the specified date and time of bidding above after which said bids will be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

Prospective Bidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. The procurement rules and regulations used in this transaction shall be in accordance with the implementing rules and regulations of "R.A. 9184".

The Bidder shall furnish as part of his bid, a bid security in the amount equivalent to at least 1% of the approved budget in the form of Cash, Manager's/Cashier's Check, Certified Check, Bank Draft, or 1.5% of the approved budget in the form of Bank Guarantee, or 2.5% of the approved budget in the form of Surety Bond, penal and callable on demand issued by GSIS or a Surety or Insurance Company accredited by the Office of the Insurance Commission.

The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at anytime prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligations to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the basis of such action.

TRANSCO-South Luzon's other requirements are posted at the DBM Website: www.procurementservice.net and at the TRANSCO Website: www.transco.ph

(Sgd.) G.R. LISTANO
Chairman-BAC
SL O & M

(PDI--Oct. 31, 2004)

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DESPITE 388% TOLL HIKE

Lopez group claims motorists to benefit from NLEX

By Clarissa S. Batino

MOTORISTS are sure to grumble during the All Saints' Day break as they weave through heavy traffic along the clogged expressways.

Those regularly taking the North Luzon Expressway are likely to curse even more starting late this year or early next year once the new operator of Nlex begins imposing higher toll fees.

Toll along the Nlex are to increase by 388 percent for light vehicles as well as heavy trucks and by 510 percent for light trucks and buses.

Manila North Tollways Corp., a consortium led by Lopez-owned First Philippine Infrastructure Development is taking over the operations of the Nlex after investing $371 million to rehabilitate and modernize the 84-kilometer expressway running from Balintawak to Sta. Ines in Pampanga.

MNTC president Jose "Ping" De Jesus who was secretary of Public Works and Highways during the time of President Aquino says that benefits of the new Nlex far outweigh what appears to be a substantial increase in fees.

The consortium that includes state-owned Philippine National Construction Corp., French firm Egis and Australia's Leighton Asia Ltd. has resurfaced or smoothened the road on the entire stretch, added two more lanes on both sides for most part, built four new interchanges, expanded four toll gates, and installed a new monitoring system that includes emergency phone boxes along the highway, improved roadway lighting and digital signs warning of traffic ahead.

Ensuring safety

The phone boxes directly connect with the tollway operator and can't be used to call home, according to De Jesus. But at least, one won't get stranded and helpless along the Nlex anymore and the 24-hour emergency assistance is sure to respond immediately, he says.

De Jesus claims even towing fees are to drop by half once the consortium takes over. The base fee of P1,500 for towing should go down by 50 percent.

The PNCC says about 150,000 motorists pass through the North expressway daily. This number should increase to 180,000 after MNTC takes over.

The MNTC chief says a study conducted by UP Planades, which the group had commissioned, shows that taking the new Nlex is cheaper even with the higher toll fees compared to when the PNCC was charging lower but the road condition was poor.

Vehicle operating costs

He says there is such a thing as vehicle operating costs or Voc which factors in gas consumption and vehicle wear and tear, especially of parts like tires and batteries.

De Jesus believes Voc should be computed with the toll fee to give a complete picture of the costs and benefits of traveling along the expressway.

Cars, for instance, are to pay P2.49 per kilometer along the closed system area—the portion from Marilao to Pampanga that charges on a per kilometer basis. The open system portion from Balintawak to Marilao shall impose a flat fee of P14 for cars, P35 for buses and P42 for trucks.

Right now, cars pay a toll of 26 centavos per kilometer along the Nlex but Voc costs is estimated by UP Planades at P7.71 per km or a total of P7.97 per km.

De Jesus says Voc is to drop to P4.94 each kilometer once the consortium takes over so the total costs for cars is only about P7.41 per km. This means savings of 56 centavos per kilometer for those to use the new Nlex.

Higher savings

Based on the UP Planades study, buses and trucks are to realize even higher savings of P3.50 per km and P5.75 per km. even as toll rates are to increase to 6.23 for buses from 52 centavos and to 7.47 for trucks from 78 centavos.

Voc for buses during the old Nlex is placed at P21.49 per km. against P12.28 in the new expressway while trucks' VOC of P26.70 is to go down to P14.26 with the new Nlex, according to MNTC.

"If we include travel time, the savings are even much higher at P1.19 per km for cars and P8.04 per km for buses. Apparently, it is same for trucks at P5.75 per km," he says.

De Jesus says the new rates are to be submitted for the Toll Regulatory Board approval by November. The TRB would review whether MNTC's computation in coming up with the toll fees are in line with the formula set in the Supplemental Toll Operations Agreement signed by the consortium with the government in 1998.

BOT project

The Nlex rehab is a build-operate-and-transfer project. By 2030, the consortium would turn over the Nlex back to the government.

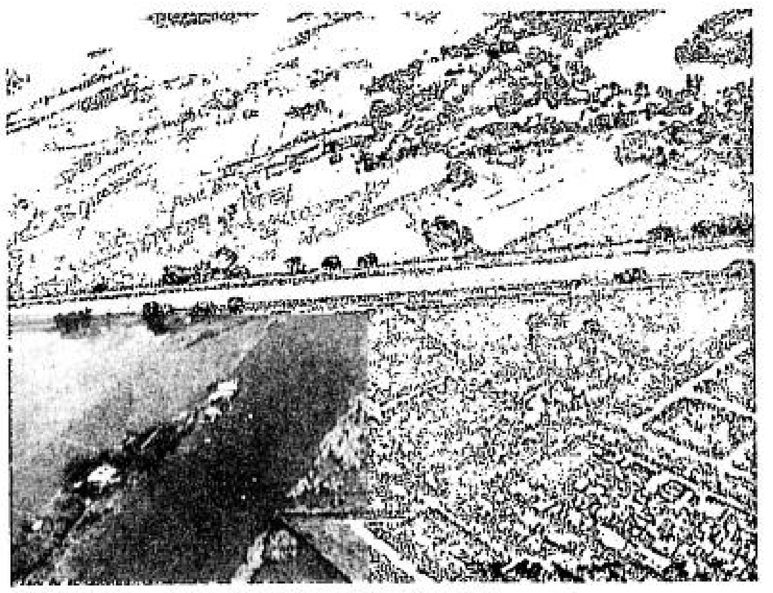
Once the TRB approves the new toll rates, cars and jeeps or class 1 would have to pay P200 for the entire stretch, light trucks or class 2 would shell out P500 and trucks or class 3 would be charged P600.

After a toll fee hike in July, PNNC now charges P41 for cars and jeeps, P82 for light trucks and P123 for heavy trucks that would pass along the Nlex.

De Jesus stresses that on the average, class 1 vehicles or cars and FX's travel only an average of 31 kilometers.

"This means that the average motorists would pay only P75 when they use the Nlex. Only 7 out of 100 motorists travel the full length," he notes.

MNTC's toll structure is comprised of a flat P42 for cars traveling from Balintawak to Marilao and P2.49 per kilometer from Marilao to Sta. Ines.


AERIAL view of the North Luzon Expressway

The fee scheme is comprised of a base rate of P14 and P82 centavos per km set in 1998 which were adjusted later depending on inflation and foreign exchange.

Based on the Stoa, MNTC is also allowed to increase the fees by 1 percent each year even if inflation and the exchange rate were constant. The toll fee scheme was computed using a 14 percent return-on-investment for the private group, says De Jesus.

De Jesus claims the only concession MNTC sought from the government was an assurance that the state would abide with the rate formula specified in the Stoa.

If the government would decide to subsidize the Nlex rates, then it would have to reimburse MNTC the difference multiplied to the actual expressway users, the MNTC chief explains.

"Before we reach financial closure, creditors require the signing of the Stoa and the turnover of right-of-way. These documents serve as guarantee that the project is viable and therefore, they will be paid," says De Jesus.

Creditors financed $253 million of the $371 million project.

The P42 flat rate for the first 14 kilometers starting from Balintawak classified as open is cheaper compared to the P95 that the Skyway charges for the 9-km stretch of open highway from Magallanes to Bicutan.

More RP homes in remote areas using sun power

From page B3

gious prize that an industry player can receive.

PNOC edged out Solarmundo's Linear Fresnel Solar Power Plant from Belgium and Elsam's Harns Rev Offshore Wind Farm from Denmark.

The two projects bagged second and third places, respectively.

Of more than 1,000 nominated energy projects worldwide, some of which came from Asian countries, the Philippines and India were the only in the region that had entries that reached the finals.

PNOC bagged the award by registering the highest score after being evaluated using the following criteria: sustainability and efficiency, innovative approach, cost/benefit, and replication potential.

The state firm received 10,000 Euros (about P714,000) and a 10-kilogram bronze statue for bagging the award.

A television crew from Austria's National TV (as the award was presented in Linz, Austria) also came to the Philippines to document how the project worked and how it affected the lives of people in areas covered by the program.

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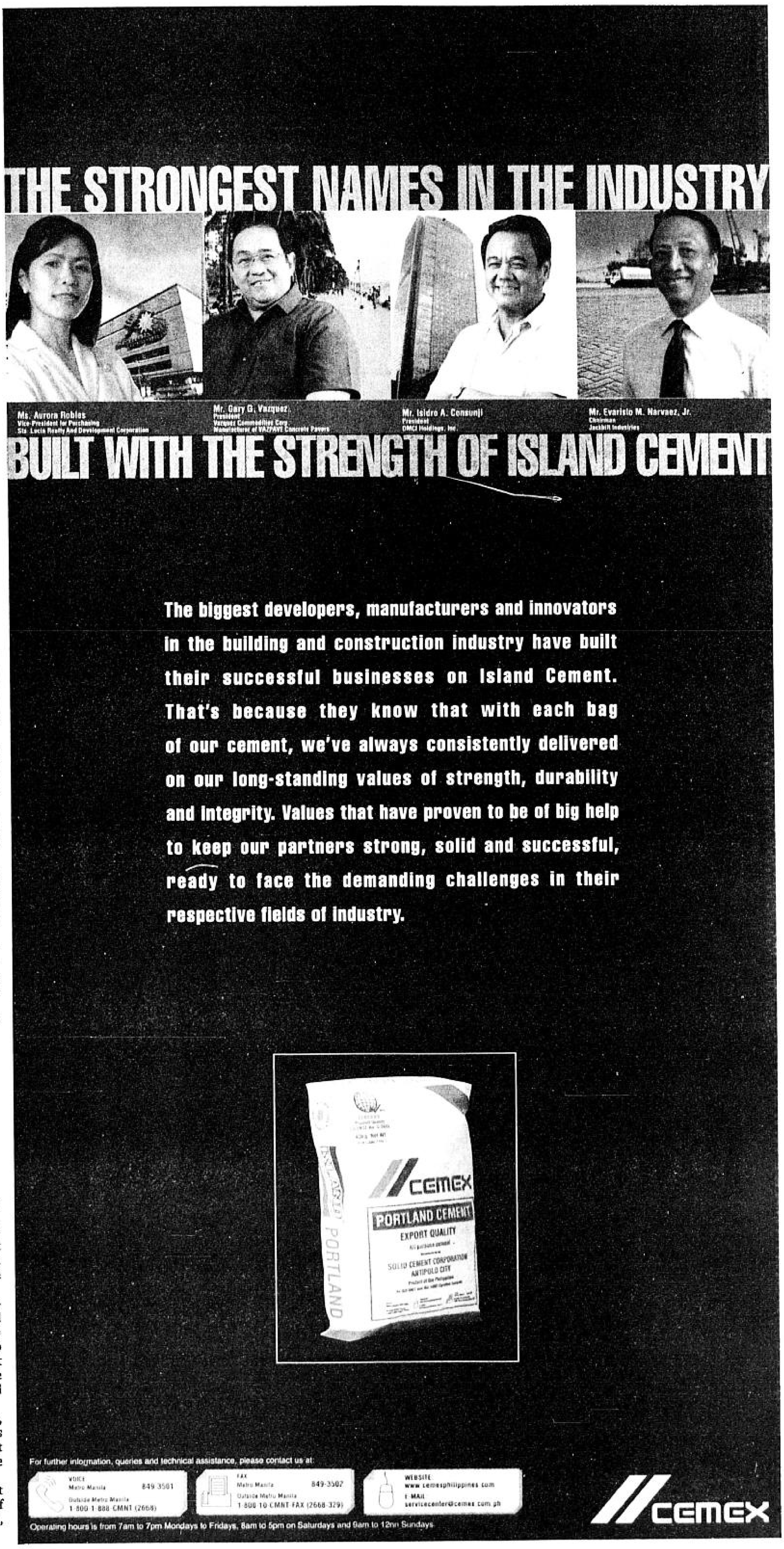
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Department Chair: Carmelita Lunas, MD, DPBA
Contact person: Dr. Trisha Salazar (874-8515 loc. 323 or 0916-3987438)

RESIDENCY IN INTERNAL MEDICINE

(3 year program accredited by Philippine College of Physicians)
Department Chair: Ricardo Salonga, MD, FPCP, FPCCP
Contact person: Dr. Dennis S. Fuentes (874-8515 loc. 441 or 0920-4173626)

RESIDENCY IN OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

(4 year program accredited by Philippine Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology)
Department Chair: Virgilio Oblepias, MD, FPOGS
Contact person: Dr. Belinda Villanueva (874-8515 loc. 324)

RESIDENCY IN PEDIATRICS

(3 year program accredited by Philippine Pediatric Society)
Department Chair: Virginia P. Crisostomo, MD, DPPS
Contact person: Dr. Ma. Clarissa Muncal (874-8515 loc. 334/197)

RESIDENCY IN RADIOLOGY

(4 year program accredited by Philippine College of Radiology)
Department Chair, Ernesto Pulido, MD, FPCR, FUSP
Contact person: Dr. Celesa Santos (847-8515 loc. 244)

RESIDENCY IN GENERAL SURGERY

(5 year program accredited by Philippine College of Surgeons and Philippine Society of General Surgeons)
Department Chair: Elias Nadal, MD, FPCS
Contact person: Dr. Cyril Catabay (847-8515 loc. 169)

FELLOWSHIP IN PULMONARY MEDICINE

(2 year program accredited by Philippine College of Chest Physicians)
Section Chair: Ricardo Salonga, MD, FPCP, FPCCP
Contact person: Dr. Aries Rodriguez (847-8515 loc. 438)

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MAKATI (SPORTS) CLUB, INC.
NOTICE OF AUCTION SALE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Makati (Sports) Club, Inc. has approved the sale by auction of the shares of the following individuals/corporate stockholders:

STOCKHOLDER	ADDRESS	SC. NO.
1. Rafael S. de Ocampo (0134)	3568 Bataan Street, Sta. Mesa, Manila	A-2172
2. Times Surety & Insurance Co., Inc. (1531)	ABC Dev't. Corp. Bldg., 2251, Pasong Tamo, Makati City	A-1367
3. Fiesta Tours and Travel, Inc. (1888)	C/O Juanito Victor Remulla, 119 Victoria Street, Magallanes Village, Makati City	A-2062
4. Centennial Realty Corporation (0241)	2/F, Lpl Mansion, L.P. Leviste Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City	A-1690
5. Oscar P. Senar (0594)	#27 R. Manalo Street, BF Homes, Parañaque City	A-2184
6. Daalco, Inc. (0717)	2/F, Alcer Bldg., 46 Lizares Avenue, Bacolod City 6100	A-1809
7. Daalco, Inc. (1640)	2/F, Alcer Bldg., 46 Lizares Avenue, Bacolod City 6100	A-1621
8. Silverio D. Capino (0194)	111 Crimson Lane, Levitown Phase V, Parañaque City 1700	A-1600
9. Aurelio M. Cifra (0042)	110 San Enrique Street, Ayala Alabang Village, Muntinlupa City	A-1541
10. Francisco C. Buenaseda (0735)	#7 Balete Street, Forbes Park, Makati City	A-1543
11. Nemecio Sy (1627)	#5 Stella Street, Bel-Air Village III, Makati City	B-922
12. Cirpriano C. Bautista (0132)	Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, 313 Gov. Pascual Street, Navotas, Metro Manila	B-104
13. Yusuki Sami (1916)	Embassy of Japan, 2627 Roxas Blvd., Pasay City	B-931

The auction sale will be held on 19 November 2004 at 10:00 A.M. at the Club's Dasmariñas Room.

This announcement also serves as a notice and demand to the members/stockholders concerned that the auction of said shares may be avoided if they pay the overdue accounts at anytime during office hours before the auction sale.

(Sgd.) **FELIX ADELFO B. LOPEZ, Jr.**
Corporate Secretary

(PDI--Oct. 31, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
MUNICIPALITY OF MAHAYAG
PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

October 31, 2004

To All Qualified Bidders

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) towards the cost of financing the Third Elementary Education Project (TEEP) and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments for civil works component of the project. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits.*
2. The Municipal Bids and Awards Committee (MBAC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the following projects and its location to wit:

PACKAGE NO.	PROJECT LOCATION	SCHOOL	TYPE OF WORK	PCAB CATEGORY	Date of Opening of Bids
ZDS-NCB-LGU-13-008-05-2004	Mahayag Central Elementary School Mahayag, Zambo. del Sur	Refer to Bidding Documents for Details	NC - 2 Storey 6 CL School Bldg.	Medium Sub Category "A" ARC	December 1, 2004, at 10:00 AM

Notes: NC – New Construction ; CL – Classrooms; Bldg – Building

3. Bidding documents may be purchased at the Office of the Municipal Engineer with office address at Municipal Hall, Mahayag, Zamboanga del Sur for a non-refundable fee of PhP 2,500.00 for each set. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a security in the amount of 2.5% of total bid price, and shall be delivered to Municipal Bids and Awards Committee, Municipal Hall, Mahayag, Zamboanga del Sur on or before above stated time and dates, at which they will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.
5. For clarification, a Pre-Bid Conference will be conducted on November 16, 2004 at 10:00 A.M. at the Office of the Municipal Engineer, Mahayag, Zamboanga del Sur.

(Sgd.) **JEFFRY G. ARTIAGA**
Chairperson
Municipal Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – October 31, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
MUNICIPALITY OF MIDSALIP
PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

October 31, 2004

To All Qualified Bidders

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) towards the cost of financing the Third Elementary Education Project (TEEP) and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments for civil works component of the project. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits.*
2. The Municipal Bids and Awards Committee (MBAC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the following projects and its location to wit:

PACKAGE NO.	PROJECT LOCATION	SCHOOL	TYPE OF WORK	PCAB CATEGORY	Date of Opening of Bids
IFB-ZDS-NCB-LGU-15-002-06-2004	Midsalip Central Elementary School Midsalip, Zambo. del Sur	Refer to Bidding Documents for Details	NC - 2 Storey 6 CL School Bldg.	Medium Sub Category "A" ARC	December 1, 2004, at 10:00 AM

Notes: NC – New Construction ; CL – Classrooms; Bldg – Building

3. Bidding documents may be purchased at the Office of the Municipal Engineer with office address at Municipal Hall, Midsalip, Zamboanga del Sur for a non-refundable fee of PhP 3,000.00 for each set. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a security in the amount of 2.5% of total bid price, and shall be delivered to Municipal Bids and Awards Committee, Municipal Hall, Midsalip, Zamboanga del Sur on or before above stated time and dates, at which they will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.
5. For clarification, a Pre-Bid Conference will be conducted on November 16, 2004 at 10:00 A.M. at the Office of the Municipal Engineer, Midsalip, Zamboanga del Sur.

(Sgd.) **SEGUNDO S. ARANDID, JR.**
Chairperson
Municipal Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – October 31, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
MUNICIPALITY OF LAKEWOOD
PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

October 31, 2004

To All Qualified Bidders

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) towards the cost of financing the Third Elementary Education Project (TEEP) and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments for civil works component of the project. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits.*
2. The Municipal Bids and Awards Committee (MBAC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the following projects and its location to wit:

PACKAGE NO.	PROJECT LOCATION	SCHOOL	TYPE OF WORK	PCAB CATEGORY	Date of Opening of Bids
ZDS-NCB-LGU-11-002-04-2004	Lakewood Central Elementary School Lakewood, Zambo. del Sur	Refer to Bidding Documents for Details	NC - 2 Storey 6 CL School Bldg.	Medium Sub Category "A" ARC	December 1, 2004, at 10:00 AM

Notes: NC – New Construction ; CL – Classrooms; Bldg – Building

3. Bidding documents may be purchased at the Office of the Municipal Engineer with office address at Municipal Hall, Lakewood, Zamboanga del Sur for a non-refundable fee of PhP 3,000.00 for each set. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a security in the amount of 2.5% of total bid price, and shall be delivered to Municipal Bids and Awards Committee, Municipal Hall, Lakewood, Zamboanga del Sur on or before above stated time and dates, at which they will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.
5. For clarification, a Pre-Bid Conference will be conducted on November 16, 2004 at 10:00 A.M. at the Office of the Municipal Engineer, Lakewood, Zamboanga del Sur.

(Sgd.) **YULO YAPE**
Chairperson
Municipal Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – October 31, 2004)

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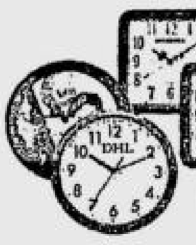

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Res'l. Lots, The Strand Subd., Brgy. Nagbalayong, Morong
Lot 1 – L21 Blk3 LA 602sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 614,040.00
Lot 2 – L3 Blk5 LA 574 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 585,480.00
Lot 3 – L4 Blk5 LA 567 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 578,340.00

Lot 4 – Res'l/Comm'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 137 sqm Hugo Banzon St, Poblacion, Balanga City
Minimum Bid Price P 526,080.00

Lot 5 – Res'l/Comm'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 330 sqm Camacho St, Poblacion, Balanga City
Minimum Bid Price P 2,112,000.00

BULACAN

Lot 6–Res'l/Comm'l Lot LA 27,272 sqm
Villorama St, Brgy. Marungko, Angat
Minimum Bid Price P 10,908,800.00

Lot 7– Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 253 sqm, FA 65 sqm
L21Blk1Gold St, Carpa Vill, Sabang, Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 733,700.00

Lot 8 – Res'l. Lot LA 4,427 sqm
L2269-B Benigno S. Aquino Ave, Brgy. San Roque, Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 3,300,000.00

Lot 9 – Res'l. Lot LA 4,064 sqm
L2269-D-4-A Benigno S. Aquino Ave, Brgy. San Roque, Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 2,180,363.00

Lot 10– Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 1,162sqm, FA 168sqm
LotD-5-B,D-5-D-2&3 Municipal Rd, Brgy. San Roque, Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 1,458,000.00

Lot 11–Res'l Lot w/Imprvmnt; LA1,845sqm
Along Brgy Rd. Tangos, Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 1,291,500.00

Lot 12– Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 2,200 sqm, FA sqm
(Former EAJ Trading) Benigno S. Aquino Ave. Ext, Tangos, Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 1,760,000.00

Lot 13 – Res'l.Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 120 sqm
#33 Pearl St, Villa Cecilia Subd, Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 840,000.00

Lot 14– Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 225 sqm Along Benigno S. Aquino Ave, Bgy. Tangos, Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 437,250.00

Lot 15– Res'l. Lot LA 816 sqm
(NearDelPosoBakery) Benigno S. Aquino Ave., Tangos, Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 1,395,810.00

Lot 16 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvnt
LA 540 sqm, FA 150 sqm
(NearDelPosoBakery) Benigno S. Aquino Ave., Brgy. Tangos, Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 1,509,000.00

Lot 17 – Agri. Lot LA 12,861 sqm
(Back of GuadalupeVill.)SanRoque,Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 1,446,863.00

Lot 18 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 1,749 sqm, FA 362 sqm
#147 Cagayan Valley Rd, Brgy. Makinabang, Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 3,491,775.00

Lot 19–Res'l.Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 593 sqm #435 Camacho St, Brgy.Makinabang.Baliuag
Minimum Bid Price P 1,794,900.00

Lot 20 – Res'l. Lot LA 1,509 sqm
(Back of public mkt)Bgy.Poblacion,Bustos
Minimum Bid Price P 1,359,150.00

Lot 21 – Comm'l Lot LA 2,118 sqm
(Beside public mkt.)Bgy.Poblacion,Bustos
Minimum Bid Price P 2,859,300.00

Res'l. Lots, Salcedo & Ma. Socoro Sts, Green Breeze Vill. Ph2 (Cityland), Brgy. Pulong Buhangin, Sta. Maria
Lot 22 – L31 Blk18 LA 171 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 147,063.00
Lot 23 – L32 Blk18 LA 171 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 147,063.00

BULACAN

Res'l. Lots, Salcedo & Ma. Socoro Sts, Green Breeze Vill. Ph2 (Cityland), Brgy. Pulong Buhangin, Sta. Maria
Lot 24 – L33 Blk18 LA 171 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 147,063.00
Lot 25 – L34 Blk18 LA 171 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 147,063.00

Lot 26 - Res'l. Lot LA 1,067 sqm
Provincial Rd, Brgy. Cay Pombo, Sta. Maria
Minimum Bid Price P 1,200,375.00

Lot 27– Industrial Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 9,096 sqm, FA 1,924 sqm
C. Mercado St,Brgy. Tuktukan,Guiguinto
Minimum Bid Price P 15,544,000.00

Lot 28 – Res'l/ Agri Lot LA 4,330 sqm
Galas St, Brgy. Pinacpinacan, San Rafael
Minimum Bid Price P 920,550.00

Lot 29 – Res'l/ Agri. Lot LA 9,543 sqm
Galas St, Brgy. Pinacpinacan, San Rafael
Minimum Bid Price P 1,622,650.00

Lot 30 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 240 sqm L17 Blk6 Camia St, Grace Vill. Subd, Brgy. Tambubong, San Rafael
Minimum Bid Price P 816,750.00

Lot 31 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 16,003 sqm, FA 1,137 sqm
Nia Rd., Bonga Menor, Bustos
Minimum Bid Price P 6,458,400.00

Lot 32 – Industrial Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 3,780 sqm, FA 2,372sqm
L8&10 Blk2 Glowdell Ave, First Bulacan Industrial City, Brgy. Ticay, Malolos
Minimum Bid Price P 21,118,420.00

Lot 33 – Comm'l. Lot LA 2,616 sqm
MacArthur Hway(In front MalolosHotel & Club Royale). Brgy. Sumapang Matanda, Malolos
Minimum Bid Price P 5,955,400.00

Lot 34 – Res'l. Lot LA 973 sqm
Prov. Rd. cor Sta. Cruz St, Brgy. Burol 1st, Balagtas
Minimum Bid Price P 1,985,600.00

Res'l. Lots, Lexber Subd, Calumpit
Lot 35 – L1 Blk11 LA 76 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 129,200.00
Lot 36 – L3 Blk10 LA 53 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 144,621.00
Lot 37 – L1 Blk17 LA 63 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 154,877.00

Lot 38 – Industrial Lot LA 7,428 sqm
L5-8 Blk3 Lexber Subd, Calumpit
Minimum Bid Price P 12,628,305.00

Lot 39 – Res'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 424 sqm, FA 541 sqm
L35 Blk13 cor Duhat Rd.Town&CountryNorth Exec. Vill. Ph1, Brgy.Abangan Norte, Marilao
Minimum Bid Price P 3,307,200.00

Lot 40 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 410 sqm #1181 San Pascual Rd, Paco, Obando
Minimum Bid Price P 310,000.00

Lot 41 – Res'/ Comm'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 1,035 sqm Along Cagayan Valley Rd, San Ildefonso
Minimum Bid Price P 4,608,190.00

Lot 42 – Res'l. Lot LA 854 sqm
Maharlika Highway, Brgy Salangan, SanMiguel
Minimum Bid Price P 591,750.00

ISABELA

Lot 43-Res'l / Comm'l. Lot LA 13,605 sqm
Brgy. Poblacion, San Antonio, Alicia
Minimum Bid Price P 4,950,625.00

Lot 44 – Res'l. Lot LA 1,000 sqm
L45-E Brgy. Magsaysay, Alicia
Minimum Bid Price P 678,750.00

Lot 45 - Res'l./ Comm'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 250 sqm, FA sqm
L7793-A cor Doña Syquia & Bantug Ave, Roxas
Minimum Bid Price P 3,397,280.00

Lot 46 - Resd'l. Lot LA 240 sqm
Brgy. Vira, Roxas
Minimum Bid Price P 262,500.00

Lot 47 – Res'l/Comm'l Lot LA 689 sqm
Cor Bantug Ave & Gen Luna St, Bantug, Roxas
Minimum Bid Price P 2,287,480.00

Lot 48 - Res'l/Comm'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 313 sqm, FA sqm
Along Municipal Rd, Poblacion San Mateo
Minimum Bid Price P 2,597,900.00

ISABELA

Lot 49 - Res'l. Lot LA 638 sqm
L5637 B-6 National Rd, Ipil, Echaque
Minimum Bid Price P 510,400.00

Lot 50 - Res'l. Lot LA 733 sqm
L4-O & 4-N Paraiso St, Cabaruan, Cauayan
Minimum Bid Price P 435,880.00

Lot 51 – Res'l. Lot LA 769 sqm
Justice F. Reyes St Cabaruan, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 522,920.00

Lot 52- Resd'l. Lot LA 300sqm
Along Rd. Lot1, Maharlika Homes, Dist.1, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 768,000.00

Lot 53 - Res'l Lot LA 159 sqm
Cortez St, Barrio Dist. 2, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 675,750.00

Lot 54 – Res'l. Lot LA 656 sqm
LotA-6-A, Brgy. San Fermin, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 177,120.00

Lot 55 – Res'l. Lot LA 300 sqm
L14, Brgy. San Fermin, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 135,000.00

Lot 56 – Res'l. Lot LA 630 sqm
Brgy. San Fermin, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 512,190.00

Lot 57 – Res'l. Lot LA 800 sqm
Brgy. San Fermin, Cauayan City
Minimum Bid Price P 600,000.00

Lot 58 - Resd'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 1,200 sqm, FA 110 sqm
Along Brgy. Rd, Ramos West, San Isidro
Minimum Bid Price P 580,000.00

Lot 59 - Res'l. Lot LA 800 sqm
Baquirin St, Purok 2, Patul, Santiago City
Minimum Bid Price P 360,000.00

Lot 60 - Res'l Lot LA 117.30 sqm
13 Rizal Ave, Victory Norte, Santiago City
Minimum Bid Price P 549,844.00
Lot 61 – Res'l. Lot LA 2,941 sqm
L376-E Padua St, Dubinan West, SantiagoCity
Minimum Bid Price P 1,999,880.00
Lot 62 - Res'l. Lot LA 901 sqm
Rizal St. cor Salaguinto St, Dist.2,San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price P 712,000.00

Lot 63 - Res'l Lot LA 765 sqm
Mabini St cor unnamed rd, Purok4 Dist.2, Callang Res'l Site, Poblacion, San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price P 325,125.00

Res'l Lots,Libertad St,Quezon Dist, Nagullian
Lot 64 – Lot 3402 LA 272 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 217,600.00
Lot 65 – Lot 3476 LA 257 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 205,600.00

NUEVA ECIJA

Lot 66 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 321 sqm, FA 105 sqm
Parcutela Subd, Brgy. Bayanihan,Gapan City
Minimum Bid Price P 1,283,330.00

Lot 67 – Res'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 443 sqm, FA sqm
132 Singapore Subd, Brgy. Sibut, Malasin, San Jose City
Miniumm Bid Price P 1,318,238.00

Lot 68 – Industrial Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 34,240 sqm, FA 5,760 sqm
Along Brgy Rd, Kalikid Norte, CabanatuanCity
Minimum Bid Price P 6,163,200.00

Lot 69 – Agri. Lot LA 14,773 sqm
Maharlika Highway, Bgy.Tambo, San Leonardo
Minimum Bid Price P 1,329,570.00

Lot 70 – Comm'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 4,978 sqm, FA 578 sqm
Rizal St, Poblacion, San Leonardo
Minimum Bid Price P 4,978,000.00

PAMPANGA

Lot 71 – Res'l. Lot LA 39,662 sqm
Along Brgy. Rd. Prado Siongco, Lubao
Minimum Bid Price P 5,751,000.00

Lot 72 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 275 sqm, FA 304 sqm
#97 Consunji St, Poblacion, San Fernando
Minimum Bid Price P 2,788,500.00

PAMPANGA

Lot 73 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 750 sqm L7&9 Sixth St, Maligaya Vill. Brgy. Dolores, San Fernando
Minimum Bid Price P 2,175,000.00

Lot 74 -Res'l/ Agri. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 3,298 sqm, FA 599.20 sqm
Purok 2, Brgy Lambac, Guagua
Minimum Bid Price P 1,510,778.00

PANGASINAN

Res'l. Lots, Callejon St, Pogo Chico, Dagupan City
Lot 75 – 688-B LA 278 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 370,400.00
Lot 76 – 688-C LA 232 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 308,416.00
Lot 77 – 688-F LA 226 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 302,400.00
Lot 78 – 688-K LA 219 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 350,400.00

Lot 79 – Res'l. Lot LA 392 sqm
M.H. del Pilar St, Mayombo Dist, Dagupan City
Minimum Bid Price P 1,411,200.00

Lot 80 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 60 sqm Ivory Coast Classic Homes, Guesel, Dagupan City
Minimum Bid Price P 447,314.00

Lot 81 – Res'l. w/ Imprvmnt
LA 84 sqm, FA 150sqm
L4 Blk11 Carmelitevile Subd, Brgy. Pogon-Lomboy, Mangatarem
Minimum Bid Price P 184,500.00

TARLAC

Lot 82 – Comm'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 12,153 sqm, FA 7,073 sqm
MacArthur Highway, Brgy. Mabini, Moncada
Minimum Bid Price P 30,382,500.00

Lot 83 – Agri. Lot LA 13,387 sqm
(Beside IN C) Along Brgy. Apulad, Paniqui
Minimum Bid Price P 1,338,700.00

Lot 84 – Res'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt LA 1,262sqm
Along Tarlac-Victoria Rd., Tarijo
Minimum Bid Price P 1,211,520.00

Lot 85 – Agri. Lot LA 6,418 sqm
Brgy Rd. Brgy. Alvindia, Tarlac
Minimum Bid Price P 481,350 00

PARAÑAQUE

Lot 86 – Res'l. Condo. FA 185.87 sqm
Unit1605 Chateau De Baie Condo,Roxas Blvd, cor Airport Rd, Baclaran
Minimum Bid Price P 4,460,000.00

Lot 87 – Res'l. Condo. FA 68.75 sqm
Unit207 Makati South Hills Arcade, East Service Rd, Balagbag
Minimum Bid Price P 1,168,750.00

QUEZON CITY

Lot 88 – Res'l. Twnhse FA 230 61 sqm
Unit13 Capitol Golf Townhomes & Golfers Villas, Capitol Hills
Minimum Bid Price P 3,975,980.00

Lot 89 – Res'l. Twnhse FA 66 sqm
Unit6 Don Guillermo Townhouse, Don Guillermo St. Holy Spirit
Minimum Bid Price P 1,525,500.00

Lot 90 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 77 sqm FA 97.50 sqm
Rd. Lot649-C-4-C Towerville Homes,Bgy.Culiat
Minimum Bid Price P 1,155,000.00

SAN JUAN

Lot 91 – Res'l. Condo. FA 333.03 sqm
Units 201 & 202 Cypress Mansion Condo. Bldg,352 P. Guevarra St.
Minimum Bid Price P 6,308,688.00

Lot 92 – Comm'l Condo. FA 158.76 sqm
Mezzanine Shop 4 Goldland Tower Condo, Eisenhower St, Greenhills
Minimum Bid Price P 4,762,800.00

VALENZUELA

Lot 93 – Industrial Vacant Lot
LA 3,987 sqm Pasolo Rd, Brgy. Pasolo
Minimum Bid Price P 7,336,080.00

SHOW MONEY P25,000.00 CASH OR MC

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3 Power Addresses in the heart of the MAKATI business district

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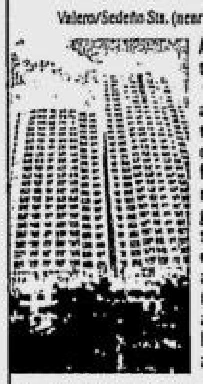
Valero/Sedeño Sts. (near Paseo de Roxas)



A well-appointed two-story grand lobby • First-rate recreational amenities such as a tropical pool and sun deck, children's play area, fitness center, function room and landscaped greenery • 24-hour security • Multi-level carpark at the podium and basement • Next to the Ayala Triangle and Velasquez Parks and Makati's prime business and commercial centers

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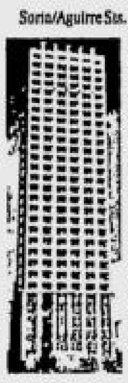
GREENBELT RADISSONS

Sorio/Aguirre Sts. (near Makati's Greenbelt Mall)



Excellent location in the middle of the Makati central business district • Spacious, neo-contemporary-style grand lobby • Exquisitely designed executive studios and one- to two bedroom homes with balconies overlooking the city • Deluxe recreational amenities such as a swimming pool with landscaped sun deck, mini-gym, multipurpose function room and laundromat • 24-hour security • Multilevel carpark at the podium and basement

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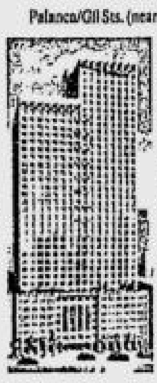

A prized location at the heart of the Makati central business district • Impressive, well-appointed lobby • Luxurious executive studios and one-bedroom homes • First-rate recreational amenities such as a 25-meter lap pool with sunbathing lounge and outdoor dining area • Retail shops at the ground floor • 24-hour security • Multilevel carpark at the podium and basement

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Cityland Shaw 1br 0917-5213838

Shangrila Shaw P2.1M 09177441292

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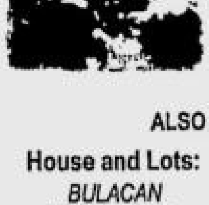

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CALOOCAN

Lot 1 - Res'l Lot LA 478 sqm
L10 Blk1, Pres. Quezon St, Happy Glen Loop Subd., Deparo
Minimum Bid Price P 932,100.00

Lot 2 - Res'l Lot LA 492 sqm
L22 Blk28, Bayabas St.Amparo Subd.
Minimum Bid Price P 787,200.00

Lot 3 - Res'l Lot LA 5 504sqm
(In front Petron Gas Station) Along Deparo Rd. Brgy. Deparo
Minimum Bid Price P 11,558,400.00

LAS PIÑAS

Res'l Lots, BF Homes, Pilar Exec.Vill., Ph6, Brgy Almanza Uno
Lot 4 - L4 Blk 7 LA 507sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,419,600.00
Lot 5 - L2 Blk 7 LA 646 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,808,800.00

MAKATI

Res'l Condo, West Tower, Pres. S Osmeña Highway (SouthSuperhighway) corHen.P.Garcia&G.DelPilarSts.Bangkal
Lot 6 - Unit 2005 FA 229 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 7,783,280.00
Lot 7 - Unit 2006 FA 219 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 7,458,920.00

Lot 8 - Comm'l. Condo FA 55 sqm
Unit 512, 5/F Cityland Condo 10 Tower1 H. V. dela Costa St. Salcedo Vill.
Minimum Bid Price P 1,473,030.00

Lot 9 - Comm'l. Condo FA 189 sqm
Units1015-1016, 10/F, Ayala Triangle, Tower1, Ayala Ave, cor Paseo de Roxas
Minimum Bid Price P 9,440,000.00

Lot 10 - Comm'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt;
LA 246 sqm, FA 55.75 sqm
L4 Blk25 (1257) Apolinario St, Brgy. Bangkal
Minimum Bid Price P 4,548,750.00

MALABON

Lot 11 - Res'l Condo FA 137 sqm
Unit101 #12 Yellow Bell St. Araneta University Vill., Brgy Potrero
Minimum Bid Price P 1,300,000.00

MANILA

Lot 12 - Comm'l. Condo FA 112sqm
Unit 17, 15/F State Center Condo. Juan Luna corners Reyna, Ingreso & Muelle de Binondo Sts.
Minimum Bid Price P 2,700,000.00

MUNTINLUPA

Lot 13 - Res'l Lot LA 300 sqm
L11 Blk35, Lavender St, South Greenheights Subd., Brgy. Putatan
Minimum Bid Price P 850,000.00

Lot 14 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 100sqm, FA 128sqm #307 3rd St, Patio Homes, Posadas Vill., Sucat
Minimum Bid Price P 1,400,000.00

Lot 15 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 1,333 sqm, FA 580 sqm
#213 Calachuchi St, Ayala Alabang Vill
Minimum Bid Price P 21,000,000.00

PARAÑAQUE

Res'l Condo, Washington Tower Asiaworld Complex, Tambo
Lot 16 - Unit 16-B. FA 333 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 9,360,000.00
Lot 17 - Unit 16-C FA 348 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 9,760,000.00

Res'l. Condo, Chateau De Baie Condo. Roxas Blvd, cor Airport Rd, Baclaran
Lot 18 - Unit 1404 FA 186 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 4,260,000.00

PARAÑAQUE

Res'l. Condo, Chateau De Baie Condo Roxas Blvd, cor Airport Rd, Baclaran
Lot 19 - Unit 1705 LA 186 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 4,460,000.00

Lot 20 - Res'l. Lot LA 632 sqm
L15 Blk3 Cypress St, Marcelo Green Subd, LaHuerta
Minimum Bid Price P 2,370,000.00

Resd'l Condo, Makati South Hills Arcade East Service Rd., Brgy. Balagbag
Lot 21 - Unit 301 FA 136 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 2,317,270.00
Lot 22 - Unit 302 FA 107 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,824,050.00

Lot 23 - Res'l. Lot LA 356 sqm
L12 Blk14, Cadena de Amor St, United Parañaque 4, San Dionisio
Minimum Bid Price P 1,330,000.00

Lot 24 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 280sqm, FA 172sqm 14 Gil PuyatSt. BF Homes Subd., Brgy. San Dionisio
Minimum Bid Price P 3,077,506.00

Lot 25 - Res'l. Lot LA 435 sqm
L26 Blk26, Fernwood Circle Marcelo Green Vill., Ph2
Minimum Bid Price P 2,427,840.00

PASAY

Lot 26 - Res'l Lot LA 208 sqm
2611 Int. Taft Ave. Ext, Bgy. San Rafael
Minimum Bid Price P 1,870,920.00

Lot 27 - Res'l. Lot w/ Impr.mnt
LA 524 sqm FA 704 sqm
2040 Decena St, Brgy. San Rafael
Minimum Bid Price P 5,757,000.00

PASIG

Lot 28 - Res'l. Condo, FA 68 sqm
Unit 205 Amberland Plaza Condo J. Vargas Avenue
Minimum Bid Price P 3,391,000.00

QUEZON CITY

Lot 29 - Comm'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA1,343sqm, FA1,870sqm Kienbin Bldg.Corregidor corAbraSts.BagoBantay
Minimum Bid Price P 33,000,000.00

Lot 30 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 1,493 sqm #20 N. Domingo St.
Minimum Bid Price P 21,450,000.00

Lot 31 – Res'l Twnhse, FA 231 sqm
Unit 14 Capitol Golf Twnhomes & Golfers Villas, Capitol Hills, Old Balara
Minimum Bid Price P 3,889,501.00

Lot 32 - Res'l. Twnhse, LA 123 sqm
FA 42 sqm #1 West Rd St, St. Jude Luxury Homes, Tandang Sora
Minimum Bid Price P 1,680,000.00

Lot 33 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 90 sqm FA 109 sqm
L16 Blk2 Sta Maria Cmpd. II, Upsilon Drive Alpha Vill., Old Balara
Minimum Bid Price P 1,317,600.00

Lot 34 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 282 sqm,FA 315 sqm
L1 Blk5 Villa Verde Ave cor Rosas St. Villa Verde Homes, Novaliches
Minimum Bid Price P 1,943,786.00

Lot 35 - Res'l Twnhse LA 100sqm, FA181 sqm #17B Rd.16, Bahay Toro, Tandang Sora
Minimum Bid Price P 2,307,750.00

Lot 36 - Res'l Lot LA 1,941 sqm
L1-8 Blk6, Congressional Ave. Town & Gardenville, Brgy. Bahay Toro
Minimum Bid Price P 36,296,700.00

VALENZUELA

Lot 37 - Res'l Lot LA 382 sqm
L5 & 6, Blk6 Packweld Subd., Marulas
Minimum Bid Price P 458,400.00

VALENZUELA

Lot 38 - Res'l Twnhse LA 65 sqm
FA 60sqm Unit 1137, L22 Blk2 Jade Twnhms & Condo., Don Pedro St, Marulas
Minimum Bid Price P 1,728,000.00

Lot 39 - Res'l. Lot LA 395 sqm
L4 Vista Verde, Lawang Bato
Minimum Bid Price P 651,750.00

Lot 40 - Res'l. Lots LA 600 sqm
L9-12 Blk1 Vista Verde Subd, Ph1-C,Brgy Lawang Bato
Minimum Bid Price P 1,530,000.00

Lot 41-Res'l w/ Imprvmnt, LA1,000sqm
FA 419sqm #3027 San Simeon St., San Agustin Vill. Mapulang-Lupa
Minimum Bid Price P 1,644,165.00

Lot 42 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 192 sqm, FA 384 sqm #108 Ramon St, Fortune Vill 4 Brgy. Parada;
Minimum Bid Price P 1,645,500.00

Lot 43 - Res'l. Twnhse LA 59 sqm.
FA 113sqm L11 Blk5 Marble Villas, F Bautista St., Brgy. Ugong
Minimum Bid Price P 1,055,200.00

Lot 44 - Res'l/Comm'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 415sqm #267 Hulo St (Brgy. Bignay-Llano Rd.) Brgy Bignay
Minimum Bid Price P 933,750.00

Lot 45 - Res'l/ Comm'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 772 sqm FA 510 sqm
#107 Dulong Tanke St, Brgy Malinta
Minimum Bid Price P 3,088,000.00

CAVITE

Res'l Lots, Tagaytay Royale Subd., Brgy Matabac, Sinaiw & Kaytitinga, Alfonso
Lot 46 - L6 Blk7, Phil-A LA 297 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 891,000.00
Lot 47 - L28 Blk13, Phil-B LA 298sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 849,300.00

Res'l. Lots, Island Park Ph1, Brgy. Palparan, Dasmariñas
Lot 48 - L19, Blk1 LA 300 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P1,350,000.00
Lot 49 - L21, Blk1 LA 300 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,350,000.00

Lot 50 - Res'l. Lot LA 300 sqm
L6 Blk36 Athens St, Pallas Athena Exec. Subd., Ph2, Brgy. Anabu, Imus
Minimum Bid Price P 765,000.00

Lot 51 – Res'l. Lot LA 163 sqm
L21 Blk8 Edelweiss St, Neighborhood Area A, Park Place Subd., Brgy. Anabu, Imus
Minimum Bid Price P 735,300.00

Res'l. Lot, Sherwood Hills St, Ph1-A Mla. SouthwoodsBgy.CabilangBaybayCarmona
Lot 52 – L2 Blk1 LA 312 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,716,000.00
Lot 53 – L4 Blk2 LA 357 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,963,500.00

LAGUNA

Res'l Lots, La Marea Ph1, San Pedro
Lot 54 - L19 Blk8 LA 150 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 780,000.00
Lot 55 - L20 Blk8 LA 135 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 702,000.00

Res'l Lots,LagunaHills Bgy.Bucal,Calamba
Lot 56 - L50 Blk14 LA 218 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 719,400.00
Lot 57 - L51 Blk14 LA 218 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 719,400.00
Lot 58 -Res'l. w/ Imprvmnt, LA 532 sqm
64-C Brgy Rd Brgy. Real, Calamba;
Minimum Bid Price P 1,197,000.00

Res'l.Lots,Makiling Heights Resort Subd Ph1, Brgy Dampalit,Los Baños
Lot 59 - L15 Blk5 LA 180 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 441,000.00
Lot 60 - L17 Blk5 LA 180 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 441,000.00

LAGUNA

Lot 61 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 523 sqm, FA 345sqm C. Brion cor Sgt. De Roma Sts,Poblacion,San Pablo
Minimum Bid Price P 2,196,600.00

Res'l. Lots, Fontamara Subd. Brgy. Don Jose, Sta. Rosa
Lot 62 - L9 Blk1 LA 374 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,870,000.00
Lot 63 - L10 Blk1 LA 319 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,595,000.00

Res'l Twnhse, Villa de Toledo, San Lorenzo South,Brgy. Balibago, Sta.Rosa
Lot 64 – Unit A1 LA 89 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,664,300.00
Lot 65 - Unit A2 LA 89 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,664,300.00

Res'l. Lots, within Villa Segovia Brgy. Pulong, Sta. Cruz, Sta. Rosa
Lot 66 - L21 Blk7 LA 121 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 374,480.00
Lot 67 - L24 Blk7 LA 121 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 374,480.00

Res'l. Lots, Town & Country Southville Ph7, Biñan
Lot 68 - L7 Blk31 LA 112 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 257,600.00
Lot 69 - L9 Blk31 LA 112 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 257,600.00

Lot 70 - Comm'l. w/ Imprvmnt
LA 681 sqm, FA 604 sqm L491 P. Burgos St., Brgy. 3 Poblacion, Calamba
Minimum Bid Price P 7,845,300.00

Lot 71 - Res'l Lot LA 300Sqm
L23 Blk21 Rambutan St, Ceris II Subd., Brgy. Canlubang, Calamba
Minimum Bid Price P 675,000.00

Res'l. Lots. Caliraya Spring Golf Club, Brgy. Talaongan, Cavinti
Lot 72 - L19 Blk22 LA 627 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,191,300.00
Lot 73 - L23 Blk23 LA 717 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,362,300.00

RIZAL

Res'l Lots, Village East III Angono & Binangonan
Lot 74 - L43 Blk62-A LA 204 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 357,000.00
Lot 75 - L45 Blk 62-A LA 204 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 357,000.00

Lot 76 - Res'l Lot LA 211 sqm
L3 Blk14, Apo St. Town & Country Hills, Brgy. Inarawan, Antipolo City
Minimum Bid Price P 472,640.00

Lot 77 - Res'l. Lot LA 400 sqm
L6A & B Blk7 Abner St. Gloria Heights Brgy. Dalig, Antipolo City
Minimum Bid Price P 768,000.00

Res'l. Lots, Forest Hills Res'l Estates & Golf & Country Club Ph1, Brgy. San Isidro, Antipolo City
Lot 78 – L26 Blk22 LA 402 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,085,400.00
Lot 79 – L27 Blk22 LA 414 sqm.
Minimum Bid Price P 1,117,800.00

Lot 80 – Res'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 580sqm, FA 268sqm #891 Belmont St. Brookside Hills Subd, Batong Dalig, Cainta
Minimum Bid Price P 2,091,490.00

Lot 81 - Res'l w/ Imprvmnt
LA 485sqm, FA 357sqm Clarion St ParkPlaceSubd, Brgy.SanIsidro, Cainta
Minimum Bid Price P 3,622,860.00

TAGAYTAY

Res'l Lots, Crosswinds Subd., Iruhin
Lot 82 - L10 Blk4 LA 549 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 2,882,250.00
Lot 83 - L18 Blk5 LA 676 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P3,549,000.00

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LOW PRICE CONDO RESORT SANTO TOMAS BATANGAS 6M² 2BR P1.4M 28M² STUDIO P850K 10% MOVE IN • 09184204333 • TEL /FAX (043)7785373

LOT

LAS PINAS

Las Pinas Royal gud lot Irma 09209084065;8746847

LOT

Occidental Mindoro
100has property in Lawaan, Abra de Ilog, Occ Mindoro nr Puerto Galera w/ beach-front suitable 4 resort/ ranch/agri 4 only
P250,000 per hectare
Call Nick 921-5718

OTHER PROVINCIAL

PRIME LOCATION FOR LEASE
BAGUIO CITY
Ideal Com'l Development Two Adjacent Lots Along Gen Luna & Emilio Jacinto Rd nr Session Rd & Market infront University Baguio.
MMla. 7276805 • 7264836 or 09189015762 Cecille
Baguio City: (074) 4422125 ; 3043276 0917-5068548 Helen or (074) 4480375 0920-9249071 Patrick

MAKATI

114sq.m @P25T/m² 8908681

LOT

MAKATI

298m²@P30T/m² 09179160226

McKinley Hills
Global City P10M 634-1212 • 0917-5213838

PARANAQUE

LOT 4 SALE SUCAT PARANAQUE 120m² 0917-8999549 • 8708099

PASIG

Rosario 1500 / 3000m² 645-3731

QUEZON CITY

DON JOSE HEIGHTS 400/m² @ P6000/m²
CHESTNUT ST.
Fairview QC 720/m² @ P6500/m²
Text or Call 0920-9006867

Res'l Lot 750m²@P9T SANVILLE, PROJ.6 Call Lilia 254-7610

LOT

RIZAL

164m² lot near Masinag 0918-6187854 / 09183411194

SAN JUAN

LOTS H&L 727-2373

Sct. F'bella 787m² B'ful Hse G'den 10Car-Drway 721-3127

OTHER AREAS

TAGAYTAY LOT FOR SALE NEAR MERCURY DRUG 220SQM NEGOTIABLE 6286973 09217696783 / 09178365448

OTHER PROVINCIAL

476SQM MALAYBALAY, BUKID-NON,FRONT OF PINESHOTEL P2,500/SQ M. 7760098

PRIME VIEW 2BLOCKSOUTH DAP PRICE NEGOTIABLE 8000+M² 09184204333 TEL/FAX (043)7785373

Rush Sale!
METRO TAGAYTAY
5,000 sq. m. Farm Lot
• 0917-814-1141 •
• 817-97-65/64 •

BATANGAS

SANTO TOMAS 400 M²&UP ORCHARD LOTS P575M² 2YR TERM 09184204333

APARTMENT

QUEZON CITY

KAMUNING 5Door nr church mrkt drive to Cubao Divisoria Quiapo 240m² P7.5M 9250993 / 8680004

LOT

LAGUNA

Palo Alto Calamba 3Has Res. Lot P700 / SQM T8425621

VARIED AREAS

FACTORIES: With warehouse with existing Meralco 150 kilowatt 3 Phase with canteen with 4 bedrooms good environment accessible to all commuters
LOCATION: CAINTA RIZAL -- Lot Area - 1,890 sqm. mts;
LOCATION: MARIKINA CITY -- Lot Area 5,040 sq. mts.
CONTACT Person
Elena Postrado
Tel. 655-7365 / 655-4890

OFFICE SPACE

• Mktl 21m² 890T 532-4634

MEMORIAL LOT

Loy Mk Fly. Est. 2.5M 7145811

Loy Pq Fly. Est. 1.8M 7145811

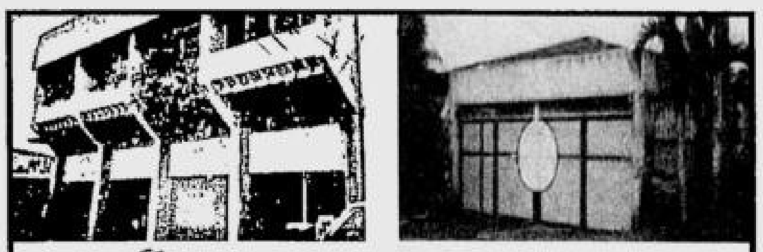
LIFE PLAN w/mem. lot • CremationPlan 0917-8997547

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

MANDALUYONG

237 sqm Up & Down 3BR 2T&B 4 Car Grge Loc. at 25 Coronado Subd. Makaturing St. Coronado Subd. Mand. City 25T / mo. 2 mos. dep. 1mo advance pls. call at 531-7229 / 532-5718



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Website : www.securitybank.com

ACQUIRED ASSETS!!!

FAST APPROVAL!!! CASH/INSTALLMENTS

BEST DEALS BROKERS ARE WELCOME!!!

WAREHOUSES/FACTORY/ COMMERCIAL BLDG.

1. Along Cagayan Valley Road, Mayapyap, Cabanatuan City
   LA: 15,410m²;
   TFA: 2,340m²;
   P50.0 Million
2. Along T. Santiago St., Bo. Lingunan, Valenzuela, Metro Manila
   LA: 38,729m²;
   TFA: 7,061m²;
   P155.0 Million
3. Lot 1-A, Sto Domingo, Cainta, Rizal
   LA: 13,174m²;
   TFA: 7,521.41m²;
   P70.0 Million
4. Along El Camino Road, Bo. Perez and Bahay Pare, Meycauayan, Bulacan,
   LA: 15,000m²;
   TFA: 8,736m²
   P97.0 Million
5. 3-storey Building, Along D. Silang St., Poblacion, Batangas City
   LA: 294m²;
   FA: 406 m²
   P8.0Million

HOUSE AND LOTS/ RESD'L. CONDO. UNITS

1. Unit 804 Pearl Plaza Condominium, Pearl Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
   FA: 167.06 m²;
   P7.0 Million
2. No. 1 Dahlia cor. White Lily St., Araneta Village, Malabon
   LA: 786 m²;
   TFA: 555 m²;
   P7.0 Million
3. Unit 21-D & 26-B Richgate Square II Condo.
   FA: 100.78 & 91.22 m²;
   P3.5 Million /
   P4.1 Million
4. No. 8 Ortega St., San Vicente, San Pedro, Laguna
   LA: 324 m²;
   FA: 297 m²;
   P1.8 Million
5. Unit 1203, 1703, 1903, Pacific Coast Condominium Project, Coastal Road, Tambo, Parañaque City
   FA: 164.62m²/unit;
   P5.0 Million/unit

VACANT RESIDENTIAL/ COMMERCIAL LOTS

1. Vacant Residential Lots 4 parcels of lot, Cor. Gen. Lim & Capinpin St. San Antonio Village, Pasig City
   TLA: 1,522m²;
   P92.0 Million
2. Vacant Residential Lots Southlake Subd., Bo. Bukal, near Pansol Calamba, Laguna
   LA: 240 to 505 m²;
   P3,000/m²
3. Vacant Commercial Lot Lot 5-A Bradco Ave., Aseana Business Park, Parañaque
   LA: 6,281m²;
   P50,000/m²
4. Vacant Commercial Lot Along Gov. Ferrer Ave., Rosario, Cavite
   LA: 1,100m²;
   P15,000/m²
5. Residential/Commercial Lots/Fairway Lots EagleRidge Golf & Residential Estate, Amadeo Road, Gen. Trias, Cavite
   LA: 440 to 1,145m²;
   P3,000/m²

*PRICES ARE NEGOTIABLE & SUBJECT TO CHANGE W/O PRIOR NOTICE

*ALL OFFERS (SALE/LEASE) ARE SUBJECT TO MANAGEMENT APPROVAL

* SALE IS ON AS-IS-WHERE-IS BASIS

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

PASIG

KAPITOLYO 5BR 4TB 60T Neg. 631-3496 534-4003

COMMERCIAL/ RESIDENTIAL

MANILA

Nr. Trabaho mrkt Sampaloc 7497119 09178906317

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

2BR2TB w/gar TEL 890-8681

Makati-Legaspi Vill 2BR Pkg unl 16T T-09167855507

MANILA

STA. ANA VILLAS 4BR/5T&B 3 STOREY 2 CAR GARAGE T-8184238/8127741 Juliet

CONDO/TWNHSE

PASIG

PACIFIC PL. ORTIGAS CTR 100SQM 2BR2TB s-furn 1 prkg RFO 11/01 Call 722-9294/0353 No Brokers.

THSE 4BR 2TB 2CGrge H2O Tank Marble Floor P15T Dr. Lao 6550691 / 09228021340

QUEZON CITY

3BR3TB P15T/mo 09178997547

STERTEN CONDO P18T/MO 2-BR 2TB SEMI-FURN MAGINHAWA ST. UP VILL QC NEAR UP MIRIAM ATENEO CLARET QC HALL •9271316 CEL. 09215705677•

TwnHse Fview 3br 2tb 9T 952-4254 • 936-9282

APARTMENT

LAS PINAS

New 2br Grge 6T 532-4634

APARTMENT

MAKATI

2BR U/D strng H2O P8.5T/mo Call 8059806/7577442

Nr Ayala Crpt 8708848 10T

P15T 3792 Mascardo St. Mkti Call 8223972 Riza/Leny

MANILA

CONDO/APT w/grge 5636296

MANDALUYONG

UP & ON HIWAYHILS 8212091

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* LATA	P 1/kilo
* DRUM	P 4/kilos
* CAR PLATE	P 7/kilos
* THICK STEEL	P 12.80/kilos

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

PASAY

406-D Reyes 2br 7.5T 8321379

PASIG

2STRY 2BR with Carport P11T /mo Call 926-5264
18-C Philam Rd Bo. Kapitolyo

QUEZON CITY

Fairview QC Thse 3BR 2TB 9T 936-9282 • 952-4254

Up & Down 2br 2tb w/Grge P10K/mo. Call 367-8895

SAN JUAN

A.LUNA ST 2story spacious P9T/mo good loc'n 6461603

TAGUIG

Bnew 2Stry 2br 1tb Brgy. Napindan Taguig P3,500 /Mo. Voltaire 0918-2335669

WANTED TO LEASE

QC • MANILA • MAKATI Condo Direct Lessor 292-6137

ROOM & BOARD

El Grande Inn, BF, Pque El Grande Ave 8257524

•FURNISH PASAY 8872865•

Kamias Rd 250 / Day / 4267157

Kamias Rd 3.5T Nice 426-7157

Male Pasay P1,500 5500254

P120! Mla 4118679/7836781

P200 Sucat Pque 8275345

RM/BD Q.C. RENT 5625802

Windsor Inn, Maceda St 7118679 / 7636781 clean !

BEDSPACE

Ladies New Near PCU PGH St. Paul UP PWU • 524-6291 Bernie • 0917-8220343

Mkti nr Ayala P1T Ldy 7257342

Nw Studio3.5T Lady 9137513

RM 4 RENT/BEDSPACER GUD LOCATON UN AVE 5234488

BUSINESS RENTAL

•NITE BAZAAR STALL RENT•
Tomas Morato cor Roces
P9T/mo 100stall 7857817

BOARD OF INVESTMENTS
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY PHILIPPINES

NOTICE

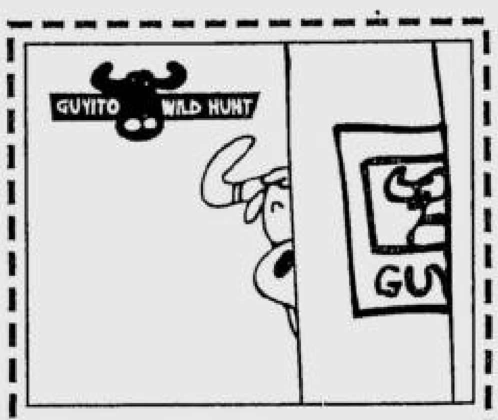
Notice is hereby given that the application of FISHER FARMS, INC. with office address at Foster Compound, National Road, Dampol 2nd A, Pulilan, Bulacan for registration with the Board of Investments under Book 1 of the Omnibus Investments Code of 1987, otherwise known as E.O. 226, as Amended, as New Export Producer of Processed Fish at a capacity of 3,413.14 MTPY with project site at same office address stated above has been officially accepted on October 21, 2004.

Any person with valid objections to or pertinent comments on the above-mentioned application shall file his/her objection, in writing under oath, with the BOI within one (1) week from the date of this publication.

Issued this 21st day of October 2004.

(Sgd.) RUDY B. CAÑA
Officer-in-Charge
Project Evaluation and Registration Department

(PDI-Oct. 31, 2004)



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Promo Period: Sept. 27- Dec. 14, 2004
Deadline of Entries:
Monthly Draws: October 17 and Nov. 17, 2004
Grand Draw: Dec. 14, 2004
Draw Dates:
Monthly Draw: October 22 and Nov. 22, 2004
Grand Draw: Dec. 21, 2004
See posters and print ads for details.
Per DTI Permit No. 2147, series of 2004

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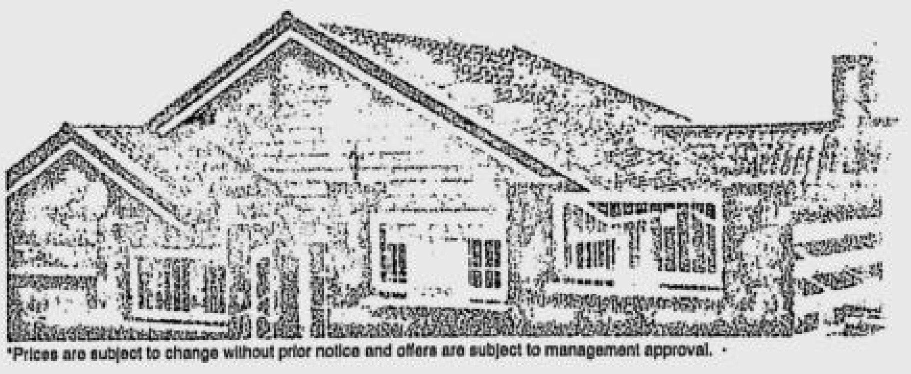
Invitation NOT to bid.



*Prices are subject to change without prior notice and offers are subject to management approval.

- Only 10% down • No Auctions!
- Lowest Interest • Lowest Amortization
- Lowest Equity • Multiple Property Selections

QUEZON CITY

Res'l w/ Imprvt - #15-A. A. De Legaspi St., Brgy. Milagrosa, Proj. 4, Q.C., 92.80 sq.m., P2,000,000.00

Res'l TH - Lot 7 Blk. 1, Lucille St., Hobart Subd., Fairview, Q.C., 85.4 sq.m., P1,785,507.50

Res'l lot - Brgy. Holy Spirit, Capitol District, Q.C., 485.5 sq.m. P1,898,800.00

MANILA

Res'l/ Comm'l lot - España cor. Macaraeg St., Manila, 650 sq.m., P59,687,500.00

MAKATI CITY

Res'l vacant lot - #39 Polaris St., Brgy. Bel-air, Makati City, 538 sq.m., P34,000,000.00

Res'l/ Comm'l/Ind'l vacant lot - Cuangco cor. South Superhighway, Bangkal, Makati City, 271 sq.m., P13,550,000.00

MANDALUYONG/PASIG CITY

Condo unit - Unit 302, Pearl Condo. Project, Pasig City, 167.76 sq.m., P6,787,380.00; 12.50 sq.m. (parking)

Res'l lot - #426 Gomezville St., Brgy. Addition Hills, Mandaluyong City, 637 sq.m., P9,402,500.00

MARIKINA

Res'l H&L - Major S. Dizon cor. Pres. E. Quirino Sts., Industrial Valley, Marikina City, 849 sq.m., P12,803,875.00

Res'l w/ Imprvt. - F. Rodriguez Ave., Concepcion I, Marikina City, 200 sq.m., P2,066,000.00

LAS PINAS

Res'l w/ Imprvt. - Camaro St., Gatchalian Subd., Phase 5 Las Piñas City, 508 sq.m., P5,632,000.00

Res'l w/ Imprvt. - Rd. L-37 Soldier's Hill, Bo. Putatan, Muntinlupa, M.M., 180 sq.m., P1,495,800.00

CAVITE/TAGAYTAY/BATANGAS

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 6, Blk. 33, Manila Southwoods, Carmona, Cavite, 652 sq.m. P3,586,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 11, Block 37 Manila Southwoods, Carmona, Cavite, 504 sq.m. P2,772,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 40, Block 28 Manila Southwoods, Carmona, Cavite, 578 sq.m. P3,063,400.00

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 29, Block 11 Manila Southwoods, Carmona, Cavite, 642 sq.m. P3,531,000.00

Res'l lots - Lot 5 Blk. 66, Trece Martirez City, Cavite, 422 sq.m., P1,181,600.00

Res'l lot - Lot 32 Blk 62 Brgy. Cabilang Baybay, Carmona, Cavite 1,500 sq.m. P24,911,437.50

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 5, Blk 11, Rodeo Country Side Estate, Alfonso,Cavite, 2,000 sq.m. P3,000,000.00

LAPU-LAPU/MANDAUE/CEBU

Res'l vacant lot - L3389-I-1 Camella Homes - Tierra Grande Subdivision, Lawaan 1, Talisay, Cebu, 580 sq.m., P 870,000.00

Res'l H&L - L18681-A San Carlos Heights, Quiot (near E. Sabellano St.) Pardo Cebu City, 806 sq.m.,P 1,209,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 4109 Basak-Agus Road, Brgy. Agus, Lapu-Lapu City, 13,282 sq.m., P 15,507,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 4111-A Basak-Agus Road, Brgy Agus,Lapu-Lapu City,4148 sq.m., P 3,733,200.00

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 27 Blk. 4 Bgy. Marigondon Lapu-Lapu City, 732 sq.m., P 732,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 2051-B-1, Brgy. Labogon, Mandaue, 2,500 sq.m., P6,250,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - Nonoc St. brgy. Tabunok Talisay Cebu, 238 sq.m., P476,000.00

Res'l/Comm'l vacant lot - L4738-C-1 South Nat'l Road, Kinasangan, Pardo, Cebu City 242 sq.m., P1,391,500.00

Res'l - L4629-X Sitio Libo, Mohon, Talisay, Cebu, 249 sq.m., P137,500.00

Res'l lot - Lot 411G Basak-Agus Rd., Brgy. Agus, Lapu-Lapu City, 9,916 sq.m., P8,924,400.00

Res'l vacant lot - L9B1 Spring Village Subd., Brgy. Pakigne, Minglanilla, Cebu, 770 sq.m., P1,694,000.00

LEYTE/ORMOC/TACLOBAN CITY

Res'l H&L - Feliza Mejia Subd., Ormoc City, 834 sq.m., P3,600,000.00

Res'l vacant lots - Lot 1-B-11 Amihan Woodlands Township Surusimbahan, San Isidro Leyte, 55,310 sq.m., P22,124,000.00

Res'l vacant lots - Lot 1-B-12 MRC Allied Comp., 70,192 sq.m.,P28,100,000.00

Res'l vacant lots - Lot 1-B-14 Surusimbahan, San Isidro, Leyte, 51,800 sq.m., P20,800,000.00

ILOILO

Res'l vacant lot - L-10 & L-11, Abeto Subd., Airport Rd., Sta. Rosa, Mandurriao, Iloilo, 1227 sq.m., P1,067,500.00

Res'l/Agri Vacant lot - L136-A-7-I Poblacion, Ilaud, Passi City, 467 sq.m., P888,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - L1150-E dela Rama St., Brgy. Monica Iloilo City, 207 sq.m., P165,000.00

Res'l Vacant lot - L1150-H dela Rama St., Brgy. Monica Iloilo City, 184 sq.m., P147,000.00

Res'l w/ 2 storey house - L783-A1-B-2-B Sto Nino St. Arevalo Iloilo, 180 sq.m., P 473,719.00

Res'l lot - L1468, Brgy. Bacan, Maasin, Iloilo City, 682 sq.m., P941,000.00

Res'l Vacant lot - L7 B2 VM Layson Subdivision, Balbago, Jaro Iloilo City, 244 sq.m., P250,000.00

Res'l Vacant lot - L1b1 VM Layson Subdivision, Balbago, Jaro Iloilo City, 1500 sq.m., P1,500,000.00

Res'l/ Agri. - L1329-A, Brgy. Tiwi, Barotac Nuevo Iloilo City, 3832 sq.m., P1,385,000.00

Res'l H&L - L17/1 Psd 188689 Bonifacio St., Brgy Pob. Balasan, Province of Iloilo, 237 sq.m., P746,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - L3-B Barrio Alaguisoc, Jordan, Iloilo City, 999 sq.m., P1,748,000.00

KALIBO/AKLAN

Res'l lot - Bo. Julita, Libacao, Aklan, 12782 sq.m., P189,000,000.00

BACOLOD

Res'l lot - Lot 645 - A-4D2H, Purok Orchids, Punta Taytay, Sum-ag, Bacolod City, 213 sq.m., P107,000.00

Res'l w/ Imprvt. - BMMC Road, Gonzaga Subd. Brgy. Villamonte Bacolod City, Negros Occidental, 1,332 sq.m., P3,200,000.00

Res'l Vacant Lot - Sunshine Valley Brgy. Estefania, Bacolod City, 1,157 sq.m., P1,388,400.00

Res'l H&L - #5 Simplicio Street St. Francis Village Taculing, Bacolod City, 400 sq.m., P1,432,000.00

Res'l Vacant Lot - Lot 639 National Road Bgy. Tiling Cauayan, Negros Occidental, 1,958 sq.m., P783,280.00

Res'l H&L - Lot 2 Bgy. Talubangi, Kabankalan, Negros Occidental, 760 sq.m., P 988,000.00

Res'l Vacant Lot - Lot 611-C, Brgy. Binicuil Kabankalan, Negros, 5,997 sq.m., P3,144,000.00

Res'l H&L - Lot 7 Blk 1 Phase 1 FZO Subd. Kabankalan, Negros, 393 sq.m., P824,000.00

Res'l H&L - Sitio Catali, Brgy. Da-an Banwa, Kabankalan City, Negros Occidental, 1,063 sq.m., P213,000.00

Res'l lot - Purok Cabacawan, Hervias Villamonte, Bacolod City, 100 sq.m., P 425,000.00

Res'l - L4-B Brgy. 6, Poblacion, Isabela, Negros Occ., 1,138 sq.m., P 515,300.00

Res'l Vacant Lot - Road Lot 10 Zone 5 Purok Pine Tree Bata Subd., Bacolod City,1,015 sq.m., P 558,800.00

Residential House & Lot - St.Joseph Street, Dona Juliana Bacolod City, 240 sq.m., P 1,038,000.00

OZAMIS/DAVAO

Res'l lot- Aurora Quezon St., Brgy. 25-C, Davao City, 115 sq.m., P719,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - Poblacion St., Sto Tomas, Davao City, 400 sq.m., P200,000.00

Res'l H&L - No. 2013, Salvacion Panabo, Davao del Norte, 1,176 sq.m., P2,718,500.00

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 3, Block 11 Bo. Magnum, Tagum, Davao City, 300 sq.m., P129,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 7, Block 11 Bo. Magnum, Tagum, Davao City, 300 sq.m., P129,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 14, Block 18 Bo. Magnum, Tagum, Davao City, 300 sq.m., P132,000.00

GENERAL SANTOS/SOUTH COTOBATO

Res'l w/ Imprv't - L28 B8 Carmela Homes City, Purok 2 Katangawan, Lagao, Gen. Santos .City, 204 sq.m., P311,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - L6 B1 Bo. Marbel Koronadal, South Cotabato, 413 sq.m., P800,000.00

Res'l w/ 3-dr.apt.bldg. - Bo. Calumpang Cahilsot Village, GSC, 419 sq.m., P792,621.00

ZAMBOANGA

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 36-1, Canelar, Zamboanga City, 1,103.00 sq.m., P10,500,000.00

BUKIDNON (MARAMAG/VALENCIA)

Res'l vacant lots - Lot 4-P-5, Hindangon, Valencia City,319 sq.m. P112,000.00

Res'l vacant lot - Lot 24, B14, Hindangon Valencia City, 180 sq.m., P124,000.00

CAGAYAN DE ORO

Res'l H&L - Kauswagan, Brgy. 59, Cagayan de Oro 2,120 sq.m., P3,973,000.00

Res'l H&L - Father Masterson St., Carmen, Cagayan de Oro, 334 sq.m., P1,100,000.00

Comm'l vacant lot - Lot 4 Blk 9 Nazareth, Cagayan de Oro City, 240 sq.m., P1,680,000.00

Lot w/ Imprvt. - Lot 7, Blk 2 Macajalar Avenue, cor. Mt. Apo St. Brgy. Gusa, Cagayan de Oro City, 898 sq.m., P3,783,000.00

· Other property listings are available upon request.

For Inquiries, please call: Metro Manila: Tess Onda/ Marita Yamson (830-0447) **Luzon:** Dennis Alaoria (811-6647) **Vismin:** Ritchie Yrac (891-3805) **Trunkline:** 817-4906 locals 2285/2292/ 2319/ 2200/2333 **Fax:** 892-4268 **email:** mtuason@bankcom.com.ph

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P. Gil Nr Sta Ana Church Highly Comm Xcelent Loc w/Parkng 6336095 6336167

Dental Clinic For Sale/Lease Rm224 Atrium Bldg Makati •811-4071/823-6047•

RESORT LEASE/ RENT

BAGUIO VACATION APTS.
P3,500-2BR; P4,500 -- 3BR
Spacious Garden, Cooking Facilities 8522466 / 8322112
0918-9403711 0918-9395629

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

240 sqm Sagittarius Mkt Lease or Sale T-6310279

• Mktl Viero 21m² 7.5T 532-4634

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

COMMERCIAL

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT OR SALE
ORTIGAS AVENUE EXT.
near Ever Gotesco Mall
formerly Burger King Rest.
lot: 1,400 sqm.
floor: 380 sqm
Call: 715-2226/7160002
(0918) 2536523

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

COMMERCIAL

FOR SALE
Parkwood Greens Exec.
Pasig City - 755 sqm.
Tagaytay Lot - 395 sqm
near McDo & Casino Filipino
Vista Real - 533 sqm near
Ever Commonwealth
St. Anthony Subdivision
Cainta - 312 sqm
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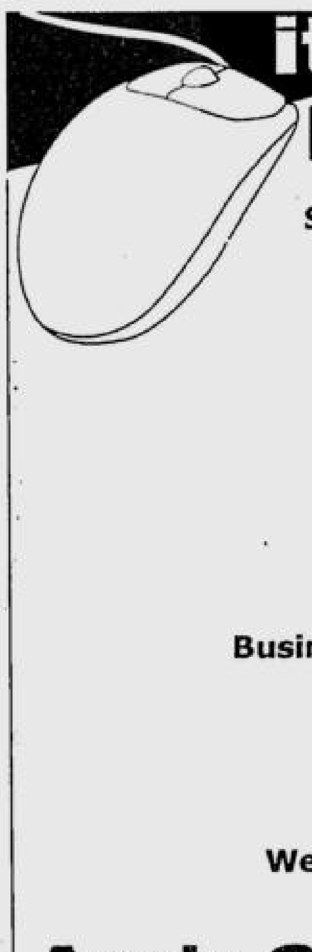

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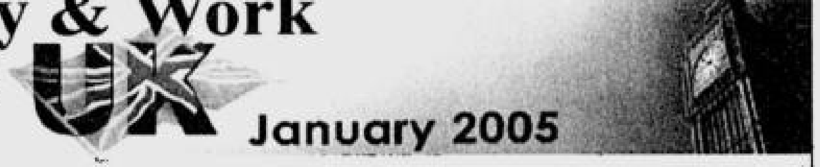

Study & Work in the UK January 2005

Study Overseas UK, one of the UK's largest education consultancies, is inviting applications from fully qualified nurses who would like to attend a preparation course at a leading private college in England commencing in January 2005. All nurses who successfully complete the course are guaranteed one interview with an NHS trust, which if passed will lead to full supervised practice in an NHS Trust hospital and subsequent registration with the NMC as a Grade D nurse.

The course aims to improve English language skills as well as cultural awareness of the UK and the healthcare system and is of 3, 6 or 9 months duration depending on prior English language skills. Subject to visa restrictions students will be assisted with finding part time paid employment in a health care setting during the course.

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Tuition fees: £1700 (3 months), £3150 (6 months), £4570 (9 months).

Estimated living costs: £500 per month.

Places for entry onto the preparation course are limited hence preference will be given to nurses who have completed an English language qualification such as IELTS or TOEFL and have experience in one of the following fields: intensive care; renal; orthopaedics; anaesthesia; trauma and emergency.

For further information on the course and working in the UK as a nurse please view our website *www.BritishHigherEducation.com/nurses.*

To apply for the course please fax a copy of your CV and valid NMC approval/final decision letter to Catherina Del Rosano Dy in our London office:

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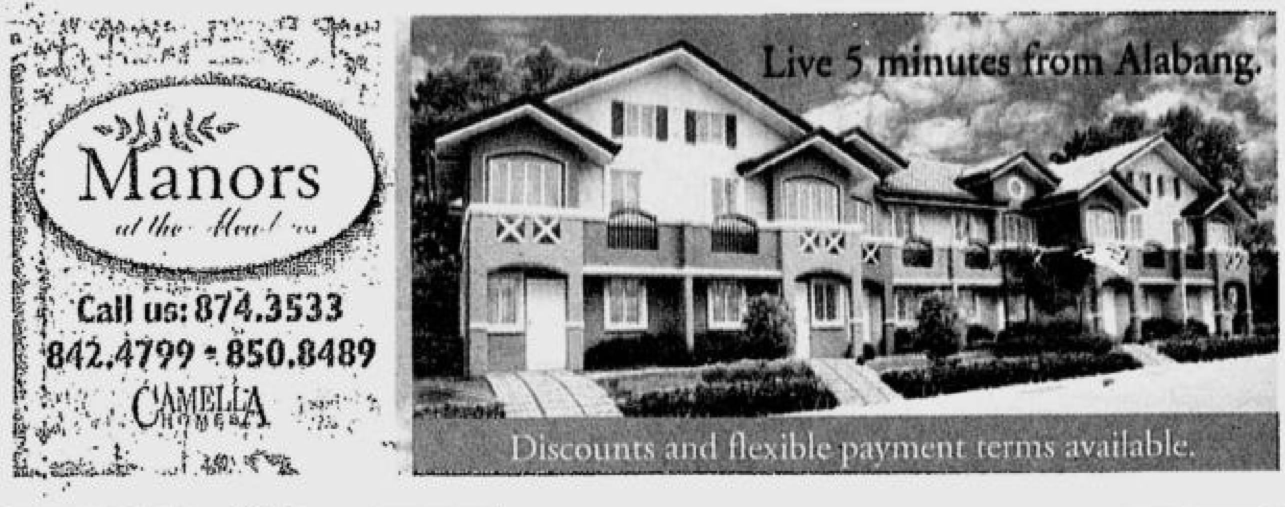

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the estate of the late Victoria Alfiler-Galeno has been extrajudicially settled by her heir per Doc.#128, Page #26, Book#XVIII, Series of 2004 before Notary Public Atty. Alfredo R. Datingaling of Manila (PDI-Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7, 2004)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late TERESITO P. BOBADILLA was extrajudicially settled among his heirs as per Doc 183, Page 38, Book XLI, Series of 2004 before Notary Public Alfonso Lacap of Pasig City. (PDI-Oct. 24, 31, & Nov. 7, 2004)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Lilia Dela Cruz & Claudine Dela Cruz Villarta were extrajudicially settled among their heirs as per Doc. # 241 ; Page # 66; Book# LIX; Series of 2004 before Notary Public Fernando Collantes of the City of Manila. (PDI - October 24, 31 & Nov. 7, 2004)

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INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) and Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), through its Inter-Agency Bids and Awards Committee (IABAC), is inviting boat repair establishments/services provider to apply for eligibility and to bid for the repair of one Ecolmare Grancevola Boat within 30 calendar days with Approved Budget for the Contract amounting to Nine Hundred Thirty Four Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Two Pesos (Php 934, 362.00).

All interested bidders shall secure a complete set of eligibility and bid documents at the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission, 2/F MWSS Engineering Building, Diliman, Quezon City, Telephone Numbers (02) 4333444 / (02) 4333446 upon submission of a Letter of Intent and payment of a non-refundable fee of Nine Thousand Pesos (Php 9,000.00).

Site Inspection and Pre-Bidding Conference shall be on **November 9, 2004,** 9:00 AM at the MMDA Waterways Group Area within Malacañang Complex.

Interested bidders are required to submit at the same time their accomplished eligibility documents in sealed envelope and technical and financial bid proposals in a separate sealed envelope. The envelope containing the bid proposals shall be kept in a sealed box which shall not be opened until the completion of the eligibility check, and the list for eligible bidders has been finalized. Only bids of eligible bidders shall be opened on the date of bid opening. The bids of ineligible bidders shall be returned unopened.

The two (2) envelopes containing the accomplished eligibility documents and bid proposal sball be submitted to the PRRC not later than **22 November 2004** at exactly 12:00 noon. Late submissions shall not be accepted. The date of bid opening shall be announced later.

The bidders shall submit together with the eligibility documents a notarized sworn statement stating all their existing boat repair contracts as of date of bidding, including newly awarded but not yet started contracts with the corresponding contract amount. The bidders shall be evaluated based on their financial capacity, technical capability and experience. The list of other required documents for submissions shall be included in the bid documents.

All particulars relative to Eligibility, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract shall be governed by R.A. No. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). The IABAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason whatsoever, waive minor informalities, or accept such bids which shall be the most advantageous to the government. The decision of the IABAC shall be final and binding upon approval of the PRRC Board of Commissioners.

For further information, please contact the BAC Secretariat, c/o Ms. Amelita V. Gamay at Telephone Numbers 9265234 and 4333447.

(Sgd.) **BINGLE H.B. GUTIERREZ**
Executive Director
Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission

(Sgd.) **BAYANI F. FERNANDO**
Chairman
Metropolitan Manila Development Authority

(PDI - Oct. 24 & 31, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform all concerned that a Warrant of Arrest was issued on September 16, 2004 by the Honorable Judge Eugenio C. Mendinueto of the Pasig Metropolitan Trial Court, Branch 72 against **JOYCE RAMIREZ** in connection with the criminal charges for Grave Oral Defamation and Intriguing Against Honor initiated by Mega Magazines & Publications, Inc. CEO and President, **SARI V. YAP,** docketed as Criminal Case No. 82787 to 88.

The office of the Prosecutor of Pasig City, in its Resolution dated July 27, 2004, found probable cause to hold **JOYCE RAMIREZ** for trial for two criminal cases mentioned and the arraignment of the said accused has already been set by the court where RAMIREZ is expected to enter her plea.

The former marketing consultant is no longer connected with **MEGA MAGAZINES & PUBLICATIONS, INC.** and all transactions entered into through her shall not bind the company

(PDI–Oct. 31, 2004)

Our organization is urgently in need of the following:

Accountant

- graduate of Accountancy and preferably Certified Public Accountant
- with at least five (5) years experience in general accounting and USAID-funded projects
- highly organized and analytical in financial reporting
- excellent oral and written communication skills
- proficient in computer (Excel, MS Word, Quick Books)
- can work with minimum supervision
- diligent and team player

Bookkeepers

- graduate of Accountancy
- with at least three (3) years experience in bookkeeping
- excellent oral and written communication skills
- proficient in computer (Excel, MS Word, Quick Books)
- can work with minimum supervision
- diligent and team player

Administrative Assistants

- college graduate of a 4-year course
- highly organized in administrative, and project files
- flexible in multi-tasking workplace
- excellent oral and written communication skills
- highly proficient in computer (MS Word, Power Point, Excel, Quick Books)
- diligent and team player

Drivers

- at least vocational course graduate
- with at least 5 years experience in driving
- with professional driver's license
- flexible and ability to communicate in English language
- good moral character

Interested applicants, please e-mail your comprehensive resumé at IPSIRecruit@yahoo.com on or before 6th of November 2004

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Peacefully reunited with our Lord on October 29, 2004

Her bereaved brothers and sisters **(†)Bernardo** and **(†)Sally Baird, Luciano** and **(†)Honorata Santiago, (†)Nestor** and **(†)Beatriz Valdivia, Cloe** and **(†)Martin Paulate, Pacifico** and **Remedios Morales, Conrado** and **Delia Ramos, Anita** and **(†)Pedro Manayon, Faustino** and **Barbara, Lydia, Josue** and **Imelda Enriquez**, nephews, nieces, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for her eternal peace.

Her body lies in state at the Ellinwood Malate Church (UCCP), Dr. A. Vasquez St., Malate, Manila.

Cremation will be at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat Road, Parañaque City on Wednesday, November 3, 2004 at 11:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to the building fund of Ellinwood Malate Church (UCCP) or Union High School.

(Please make check payable to Romeo Gecolea, President of Union High School Alumni Association)

"In my Father's house are many rooms. I am going there to prepare place for you. I will come back and take you to be with Me ... and you may also be where I am." John 14:2-3

ARTURO "PAPA" BAJARO TOLENTINO

October 16, 1929 – October 25, 2004

We, his loving wife **COROMINA IBAY**; children and children-in-law **ARTURO JR. & GEMMA CHAVEZ; RAUL & MARIA CECILIA OLIVA; ANNA LYNN; MILDRED; AILEEN & ALBERT ALONZO; BELINDA & NOEL BABASA; MELISSA & JUAN ARANGOTE** and **EDWIN & MA. VICTORIA DE LARA**; grandchildren **CLINT, GIAN, JEWEL & GARY; EAN; MIA, NYKO, OLGA, PATTI & LANZ; BEA; POCHOLO; MATT & MAXINE**; sister **LILY**; brothers and sister-in-law **JUN & LETTY (†) & WINI** and other loved ones, request to join us in celebrating Papa's coming home to the Lord.

His remains lie in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Thursday, November 4, 2004 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City after the 2:00 P.M. Holy Mass at the Arlington Memorial Chapels.

QUIRINO DAVID YAP

Son of the City of San Fernando, Pampanga

Died in the grace of our Lord
on October 30, 2004.

His bereaved wife **Gloria Viray**; children **Dan, Lucy, Rudy** (†), **Quirino Jr.** (†), **Tess, Linda, Fer, Jingo, Fondie, Jesse,** and **Monet**; together with their spouses, grandchildren and great grandchildren, sister **Carmelita**; brother **Johnnie** request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at their residence at A. Consunji St., City of San Fernando, Pampanga.

Interment will take place on **November 3, 2004** after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of San Fernando, City of San Fernando, Pampanga.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

KUAN FUNG ME WA

wish to express our deepest appreciation
to all our relatives and friends,
near and far, who sent flowers, mass cards,
letters of sympathy, spent precious time with us,
and expressed in many ways your love,
concern and support during our time of bereavement.

She had lived a full life and now we entrust her to the bosom of God, our Father

-her loving children **Robert** and **Yvonne, Helen** and **Castor Quan, Joseph** and **Jane, Choleng Si**; her ever loving grandchildren **Kelvin** and **Reah, Natalie, Jeremy, Sherwin, Karen, Mary, Dennis, Krystle, Joanne, Brian, Jonathan, Melody, Ryan** and **Lincoln**; and her great-grandchildren **Karlos** and **Yñigo.**

Atty. Jose V. Roldan

of Makato, Aklan and Quezon City

*Peacefully joined his Creator, his loving wife **Rosy** and his son **Adring** at 1:00 a.m. on October 29, 2004 at the age of 90.*

His loving children **Marina, Baby** and **Cip, Lyd** and **Tony** and daughter-in-law **Tina**; grandchildren **Marijo, John, Michael** and **Edith, Michelle, Teppie, Joel** and great-grandson **Marvin Paul** and relatives request the pious readers to pray for his eternal rest and everlasting happiness.

His remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz, Chapel A-3, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be at the Holy Cross Memorial Park, Novaliches, Quezon City on Wednesday, November 3, 2004, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at Chapel A3, South Wing.

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.
Matthew 10:39

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

ATTY. LEO (CALOY) C. MEDIALDEA, JR.

who passed away on 16 October 2004

wish to thank all those who offered prayers and masses, sent messages and flowers, extended assistance and condoled with us during the most trying moment.

We miss his presence and constant care, yet find comfort in the thought that he is now happily reunited with the Lord.

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"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

HERMOGENES T. SANTOS

Passed away in the Grace of the Lord on October 30, 2004 at the age of 83.

His bereaved wife **Rosa Marquez Santos**; children **Danny, Willie** and **Emy** (†); grandchildren **Joel, Ann, Ariel, Arnel, Chic** and **Jhunie, Carlo, Paolo, Erika,** and **King**; brothers and sisters, other relatives and friends request the readers to join them in praying for his eternal happiness in heaven.

His remains lie in state at their residence at 6659 Taylo St., Brgy. Pio del Pilar, Makati City.

Interment will be on Thursday, November 4, 2004 at Pasay Cemetery.

NARCISO M. SILANG

Died on October 28, 2004
at the age of 52.

His loving wife **Antonia Silang**; children **Katherine Rose, Khrystoper Mark, Khrystian Jay**; brothers, sisters, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nephews & nieces mourn his passing and wish his eternal rest.

His body lies in state at 1103 Arlegui St., Quiapo, Manila

Interment will be on Wednesday, November 3, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. at the La Loma Cemetery, Caloocan City.

"And ... I will dwell in the House of the Lord ... Forever." – Psalm 23

LEONIDA S. BULAON

of Ususan, Taguig, Metro Manila
Peacefully joined our Lord
on October 29, 2004 at the age of 84.

Her daughter **Mariros**; son-in-law **Bingo Djaresco**; grandchildren; **Gica, BJ Chesca**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at Chapel 2, Garden of Memories Memorial Chapels, Pateros, Metro Manila.

Funeral Mass will be celerated at 2:00 p.m.
on Wednesday, November 03, 2004.
Interment will immediately
follow at Garden Memories
Memorial Park, Pateros,
Metro Manila.

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Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
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Balloons
Interment Band
Manila Memorial Park

Manila Memorial Park: The Plus Factor

Bayani San Diego Jr.

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❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again."
2 Corinthians 5:4-5

MA. CARMEN "MENCHU" SALUMBIDES NICANOR

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord
on 29 October 2004.

Her loving sons, **J.P.** and **COCO**, her **PAPA**, brothers and sister, **MILO**, **DIUTAY**, **NONOY** & **CORY**, other relatives and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her cremains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Inurnment will be on Wednesday, 03 November 2004 at the Eternal Gardens Memorial Park, Baesa, Caloocan City after the 8:00 A.M. Mass.

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announce with deep sorrow the death of their

Former President and Chairman

QUIRINO DAVID YAP

We will deeply miss him
and request pious readers
to pray for the eternal repose
of his soul.

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of

QDY & Sons Corporation

announce with deep sorrow the death of their

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QUIRINO DAVID YAP

We will profoundly miss him
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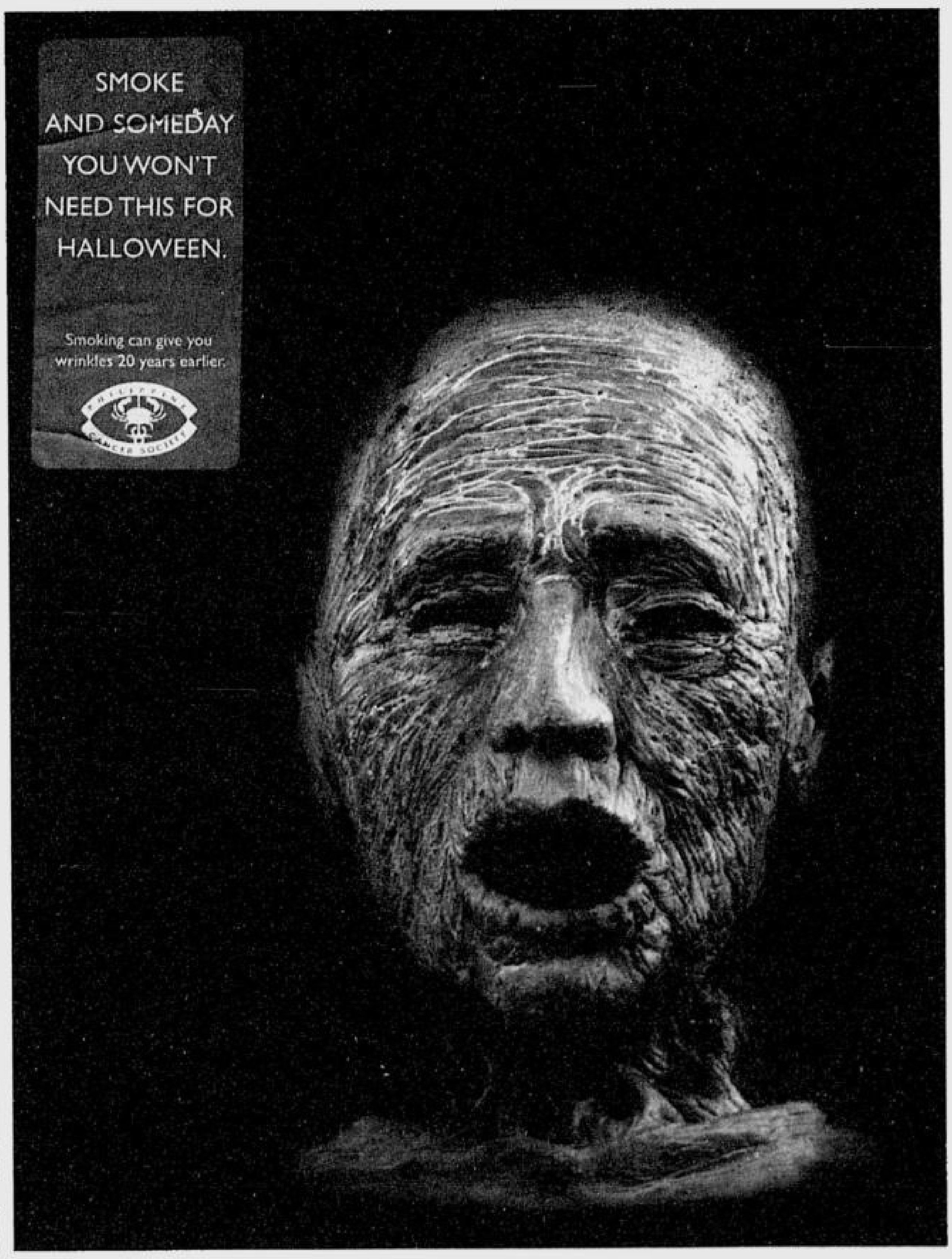
of his soul.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Sunday LIFESTYLE
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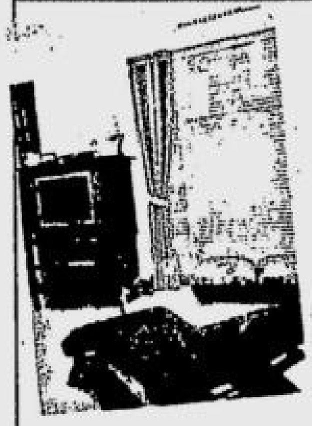
In this issue



DOING your own home /F1

SIBLING revelry /H2

Princess of Hearts

STORY ON PAGE C2

PRINCESS Caroline of Hanover spends her time with sick and neglected children on her three-day Manila visit, including this orphan who seems to enjoy her lap.

Power Plant Mall's Scare Fair

It's that time of the year when knee-high goblins and ghouls yell, "Trick or Treat!!" and get their Jack-O-Lantern goody bags filled to the brim with candy.

This Halloween, Rockwell's Power Plant Mall will be giving shoppers a whole lot of tricks and a truckload of treats.

Children ages twelve years old and below who were able to pre-register for Power Plant Mall's Halloween treat can watch the screenings of "Scooby Doo 2" (the movie) at Cinemas 5 and 6 at 10am and 10:30am.

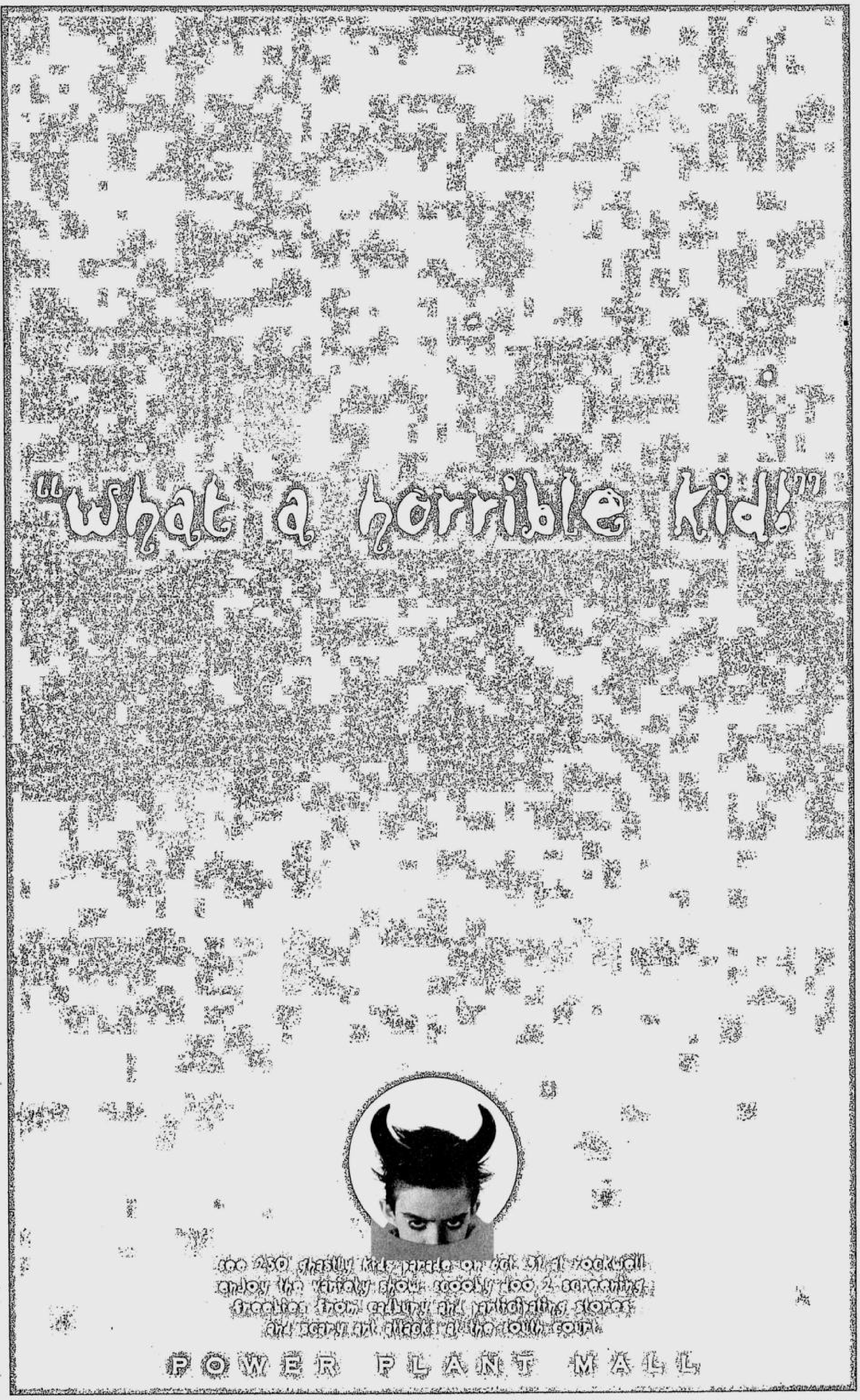
And since Halloween would never be complete without bags full of candy, pre-registered kids can go all around the mall to selected shops for a Trick-or-Treat spree!

Minute monsters and wee witches are encouraged to come in costume for a Kiddie Parade around the Mall that starts at 2pm. Judges will be on the lookout during the parade for the terror tot with the most creative and original costume and will be given a grand prize.

Kids who were unable to register need not fret because loads of entertainment is in store for them too. Starting at 3pm, Jugglers and acrobats will perform at the North Court of the Mall. While the South Court of the Mall will be transformed into a circus of activities from 11AM onwards. Face painters, glitter and henna tattoo artists, balloon twisters, cotton candy food carts and a whole lot more are in store for kids of all ages. Power Plant Mall's Halloween fair is guaranteed to raise your child's hair, not in fright but in sheer delight!

Chocolates will be given away courtesy of Cadbury.

Advt.


"what a horrible kid!"
see 250 ghastly kids parade on oct. 31 at rockwell
enjoy the variety show. scooby doo 2 screening
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and scary art attack at the south court
POWER PLANT MALL

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See posters and flyers for details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A1-665. Series of 2004.

THE PRINCESS is moved to tears by a presentation of young, unwed mothers at the Makati Coliseum.

THE 47-YEAR-OLD royal mom shares her table with wards of Jade, Virlanie's home for special children (above). At right, she makes a stop along a dark, narrow alley in a depressed area in Makati. At times, the princess has to bend to avoid the drying laundry and whatnot suspended along her path.

MORE of the neglected get special royal attention.

REUTERS

Princess of Hearts

The Princess of Monaco spent almost her entire first visit to the Philippines with needy children

Text and photos by Cheche V. Moral

PRINCESS Caroline of Hanover, for all her simplicity, has a commanding presence, a quiet authority that's proving beneficial in bringing attention to her causes.

PRINCESS *ba siya talaga? Ang simple lang niya.* (Is she really a princess? She's so simple.")

Sans makeup and dressed simply in a navy pant suit, white T-shirt and brown alligator loafers, Princess Caroline of Hanover made a hush-hush visit to a youth detention center in Manila early Monday morning. Not quite the elaborately dressed, tiara-ed, fairy tale princess envisioned by the center's wards but so what.

"*Mukha siyang mabait* (She seems nice)," said Jeffrey, 17, a vagrant youth in the custody of the Department of Social Welfare's Reception and Action Center (RAC) in Arroceros.

RAC was the first stop of the Monaco royal's three-day Manila visit to raise funds for Virlanie Foundation, a beneficiary of Amade Mondiale, a humanitarian organization founded by the princess' late mother. Princess Caroline took over the reins of Amade Mondiale 10 years ago.

It was the princess' first visit to the country. Arriving promptly at 8 a.m., the princess went directly to the decrepit RAC building, and into the tiny room for infants on the second level. She slung a young boy on her left hip and quietly chatted with the young mothers who were in RAC's custody.

Focus on street kids

Virlanie's primary mission is to look after the welfare of street children. Founded in 1992 by Dominique Lemay, a Frenchman married to a Filipina, the non-government organization has also included vagrant families, abused women and children in conflict with the law among its causes. Virlanie is a benefactor of RAC, and the youth detention center right across it, the Manila Youth Reception Center (MYRC).

Lemay, with lawyer Eric Mallonga, president of Amade Philippines and Virlanie's legal counsel, had met with the princess on several trips to Monaco for Amade Mondiale's events. It was on those visits that Princess Caroline learned of Lemay's work, and expressed her desire to help him in his efforts.

The princess' arrival, Lemay said, "will bring focus on the plight of children in the Philippines... and enjoin Filipinos to the cause."

Virlanie has 300 children directly under its care, all housed in 12 homes. Up to 500 more who live in the areas of Payatas in Quezon City; Tondo, Manila; and Brgy. Singkamas, Makati, are getting support from the NGO, making it the "biggest foundation in the Philippines."

"But very few people know of us," Lemay bemoaned. "No one would listen to me. [I told the princess], Madame, maybe the people will listen to you."

Princess Caroline, eldest child of Prince Rainier of Monaco and the former Hollywood icon Grace Kelly, arrived in the country alone, contrary to earlier reports that said she would be accompanied by her husband, Prince Ernst August of Hanover. Except for the black-tie fundraiser, she refused any hoopla for her RP visit, her schedule kept under tight wraps.

Exclusive access

Closely guarded by burly bodyguards, the press was barred from talking or going near the princess. Photographers weren't also allowed into the RAC/MYRC premises (and for all her other activities, for that matter), prompting some foreign photographers to prop themselves up against the iron fence outside, paparazzi style.

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza, who assisted the princess in inaugurating the Virlanie-funded new building for adult vagrants, even had a minor spat with the princess' official photographer when the latter prevented the mayor's photographer from taking photos.

Before leaving for the airport Wednesday night, however, the INQUIRER was briefly allowed exclusive access to the princess. A mother of four children herself, she told this writer how the Manila visit had affected her personally.

"It was very moving to be with the children," the princess said. "I saw all kinds of children, many children with very special needs, children in jail, children who are given another chance."

Crimes against children

On Monday, the royal lingered in the cramped MYRC detention center, right across RAC, where 186 youths were detained. The center has an ideal capacity of 100.

"She was very emotional," Lemay said of the princess. "She was very touched" at the children's presentation, including a Tinikling dance, "but she felt the situation was so terrible. She said it was not normal to put 40 children together in a 30 sq-m room. She couldn't understand how all these people could fit in such a small space."

The young detainees are roomed together based on their physical sizes, said Rosalina de Leon, the social worker who heads MYRC. This is to avoid the smaller children from being bullied by the bigger boys. In the past, riots and a jailbreak had taken place in the center.

"The princess was concerned about the small dining area," De Leon said. "I explained to her that we feed them in [batches]."

She told the INQUIRER she hopes to see an "improvement in the conditions of the center of detention for children" the next time she visits.

Despite its already dismal state, De Leon said MYRC's budget was further slashed following the notice of a fiscal crisis. "Our budget is still for 100 children. It's good that vegetables confiscated [from illegal vendors] are brought here to feed our wards."

Lemay said Virlanie has been working to rehabilitate the two particular shelters in Manila. The last time something was done for the facilities was in 1992. He had the new building finished in two months in time for the princess' arrival. "Now it's clean [because the princess is coming]. But [on other days] it's really, really bad."

Most of MYRC's wards are awaiting trial for crimes like theft ("mostly cell phone"), rape, robbery and other misdemeanors. Others are "rescued" from the city jails in Manila and Malabon, as they were being lumped with hardened criminals, added Mallonga.

Mallonga heads the local chapter of Amade, or World Association of Children's Friends. The Philippines is the first member-state of Amade in Asia. Founded by Princess Grace in 1963, initially in support of anti-abortion, abused children and orphanages, Amade now supports humanitarian efforts to aid children, in protection of their ethical and legal rights.

"We have proposed to the United Nations to make crimes against children as crimes against humanity," Mallonga said. "This will protect children from child pornography especially in the Internet, sex trafficking..."

On Monday afternoon, Princess Caroline was moved to tears when a group of young unwed mothers and pregnant girls rendered the song "Greatest Love of All," in a late lunch with Virlanie's wards and event donors and organizers at the Makati Coliseum. Some of the young women had infants cradled in their arms.

Courtesy call

But that was perhaps the only poignant moment in the afternoon for the princess who had just come from a courtesy call with the President, who reportedly promised the princess to speed up the adoption process to six months or a year. Lemay said it normally took two years to legally adopt a child.

Smartly dressed in a navy skirt, silk polka dot shirt and black low-heeled pumps, Princess Caroline visibly enjoyed the children's song-and-dance presentations. She playfully cradled kids on her lap, including a young girl Lemay is in the process of adopting.

The princess partook of the simple meal, consisting of *pancit*, rice, chicken and fish dishes. Typical of Filipinos, VIPs later took turns with Virlanie wards to have their photos taken with the princess.

On Monday night, a dinner-fundraiser was held at the Makati Shangri-La in honor of the princess, which was expected to raise P10 million for Virlanie's projects. Highlighted by an Inno Sotto fashion show, some 400 of Manila's philanthropists attended the event.

On Wednesday, a forum was held at the Makati Shangri-La to discuss Amade's UN proposal. "There is only one constant, the world's recognition that children are treasures," the princess said in her speech.

She also visited the children who had gotten ill from the toxic wastes left by the former US Bases in Subic and Clark. The royal had personally asked US President George W. Bush "to provide humanitarian aid and compensation to the victims and their families." She was, however, told that the Philippine government had agreed to free America of any legal obligations after the departure of the American military forces.

One of the two rape victims in MYRC custody begged the princess to help her see her baby on Christmas. The princess, in turn, asked Atienza to make sure the girl gets her wish, and that the girls be taken care of. She also made him promise to help reunite some of the children with their families. "I told him I'll follow up on his promise to the princess," Lemay said.

Before leaving Wednesday night, the princess spent the morning visiting several of Virlanie's homes in a depressed area in Makati. A young orphan dressed in a hula costume shyly sat on her lap. The royal gently rocked her to the hula tune playing in the background. The girl wrapped her arms around the princess' neck, reluctant to let go.

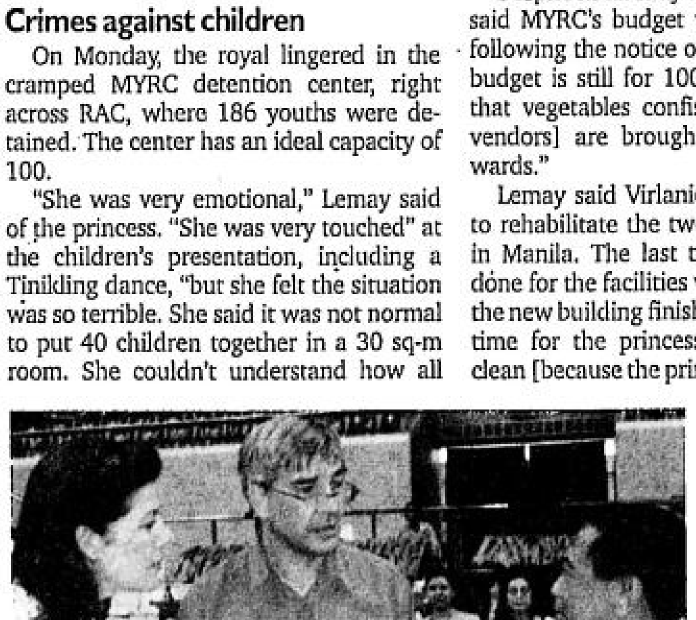
Quiet grace

Princess Caroline had a quiet grace, but an intense presence that commanded respect. Everywhere she went, kibitzers were held agog. Even at the dinner fundraiser Monday night, her simplicity was a stark contrast to the bejeweled local guests. At the dinner, the princess reportedly told a curious society matron she didn't bring jewelry on her travels.

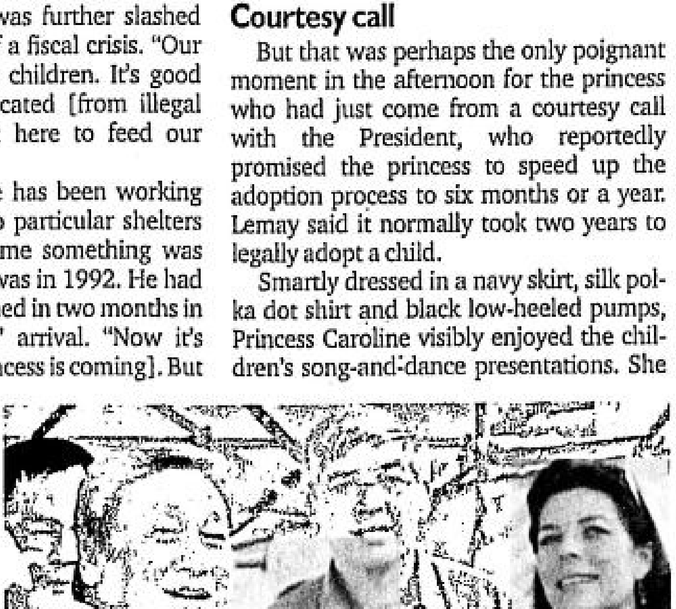
She reportedly did ask to see pieces from a local jeweler known for South Sea pearls. Pressed for time—with no assistants in tow, she packed her own bags—the princess instead asked for the jeweler's catalog to peruse on her way home.

Lemay said the princess promised to try her best to help him in his fight for the rights of children in the Philippines. She was also made aware that Virlanie is working largely without help from the government, even as Lemay couldn't help but feel that certain politicians were around "only to have their photos taken with the princess."

E-mail the author at cmoral@inquirer.com.ph



WITH VIRLANIE founder Dominique Lemay and Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay at the Makati Coliseum lunch with Virlanie wards



WITH AMADE Phils. president Eric Mallonga (partly hidden), Manila Mayor Lito Atienza and Lemay at the RAC/MYRC compound

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No.265[illegible]

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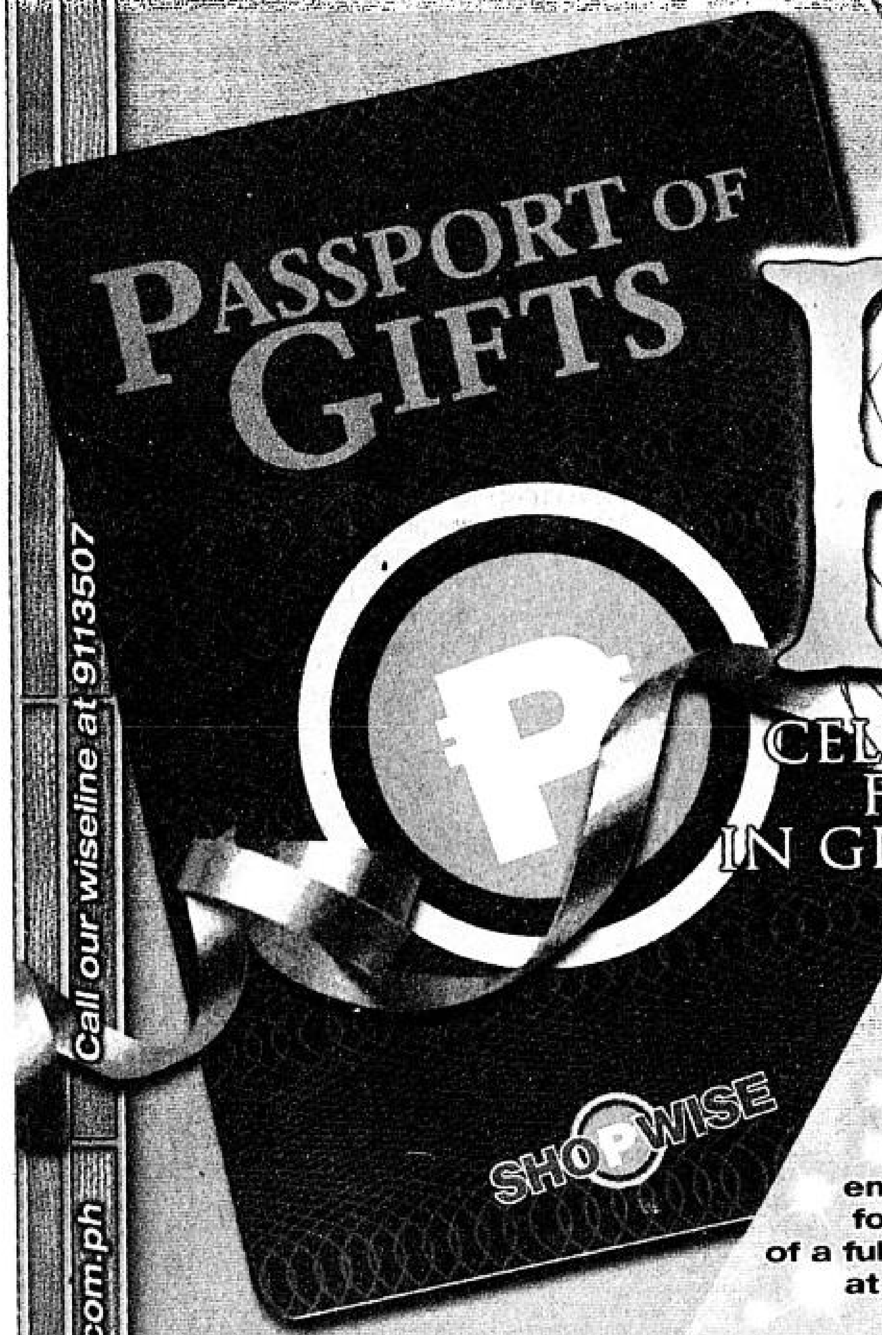
See Posters and Flyers for details Per DTI-NCR Permit No.2647, Series of 2004



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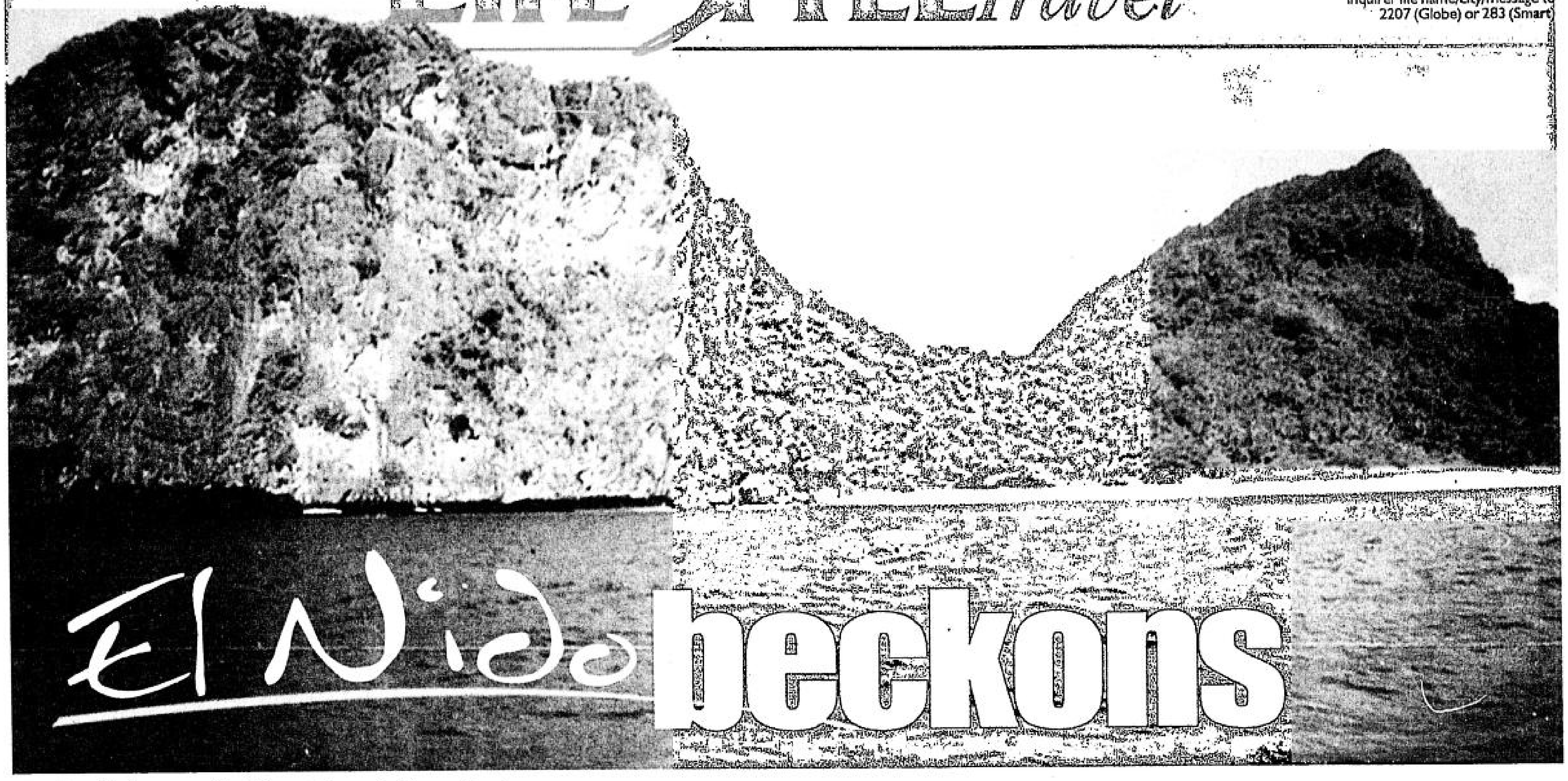
El Nido beckons



BLACK marble-limestone cliff, wild vegetation and white-sand beach

The town has a distinct character derived mainly from towering cliffs of marble and limestone that ring part of the northern Palawan ecodestination

Text and photos
by Amadis Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

SECURITY was tight that day on board MV Our Lady of Medyugorje bound for Coron and Puerto Princesa, capital city of Palawan. The military, still mindful of the tragedy that had befallen SuperFerry 14, were visible; and their well-trained, disciplined dogs went around nonchalantly sniffing the bags of the passengers.

It was a 28-hour voyage from Manila. We arrived early the following morning at Coron Port. Ah, there was the cruise ship MV Coco Explorer, by now something of an old friend, on its way to nearby Coron Island, a major ecotourist destination, with its load of Danish tourists.

That evening the stars were out in full force, despite some rainshowers earlier and cloudy skies. A quarter moon shone over Puerto Princesa as the ship approached, gliding over the bay, and the lights of the city began to materialize in the distance.

Fabled town

Upon arrival I was welcomed by my hosts Nonoy and Ruby Lanzanas. Nonoy is a songwriter-musician and his family band, Sinika, serves as a cultural ambassador of Mayor Edward Hagedorn. The Lanzanas children often perform with the group. There are the two girls Ela (now based in Amanpulo) and Kim, and the two boys Jerico and Christian Piccolo.

For this latest trip to Palawan, my ecodestination was the elusive, fabled town of El Nido, which has been beckoning to me through the years, although no invitation was forthcoming from the upscale island resorts. From Puerto Princesa to El Nido, which lies 270 km north of the capital, is a long way by bus (daily 9 a.m., P350 per, Sweety Transport or Eulen Joy—such names!).

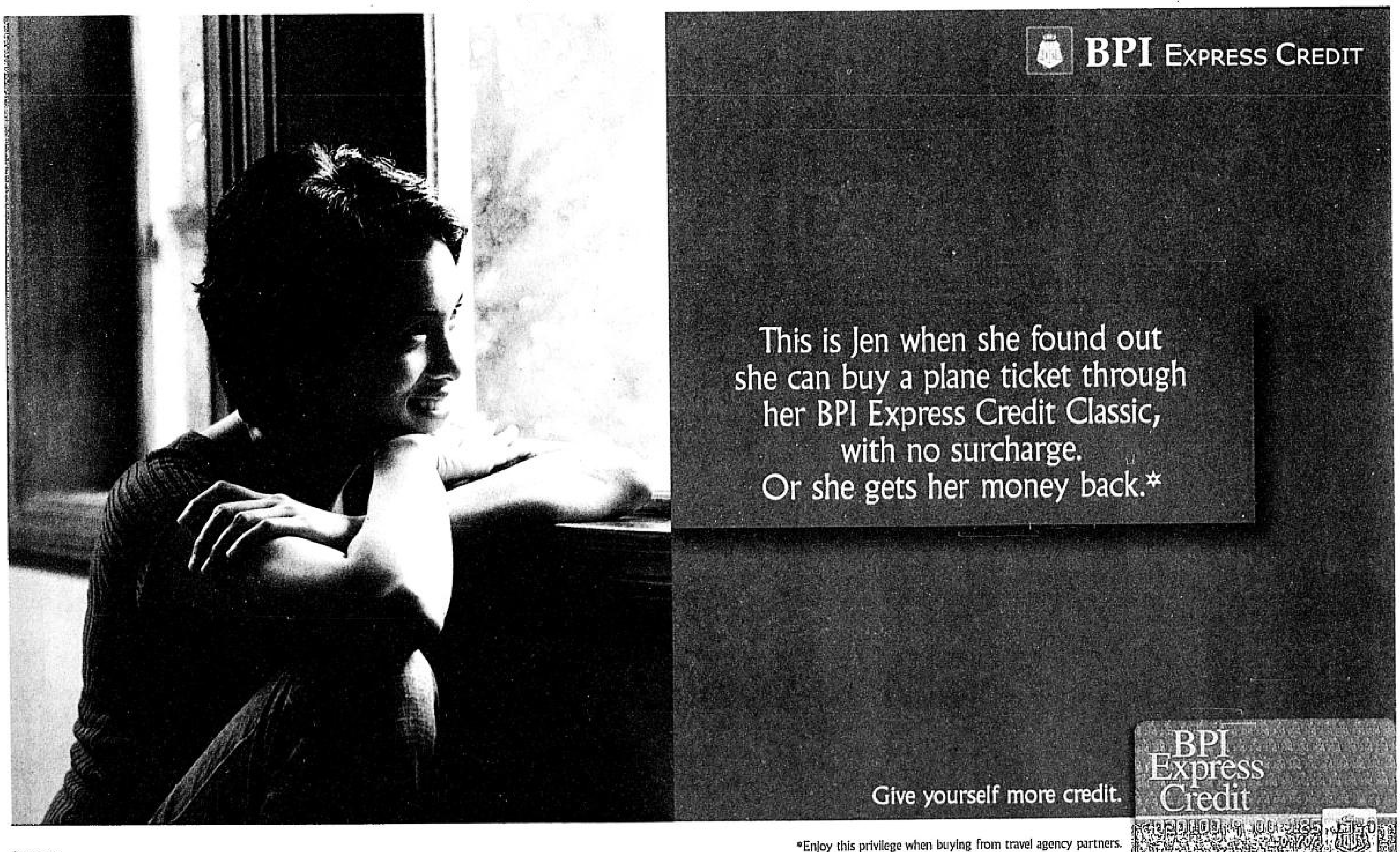
The trip may take all of eight hours. In our case, it was even longer because of faulty brakes. The driver had to stop three times so that the technician—backed up by a staff complement of about six, with two toolboxes on the ready—could trouble-shoot the technical problem.

And so "Sweety" plunged northward, passing through a long, well-paved highway and then an endless dirt road, through mountain zigzags, forested areas, Protected Areas ("Malampaya Sound"), areas under construction, landslide areas, mangrove areas, glimpses of the sea, dusty trails, detours, military checkpoints ("AFP Assistance Centers"), small bridges (5T-20T capacity), fields of green and paths of red (clay).

The last leg of the journey was Taytay, with its historic Port Barton, Santa Monica parish church and panorama of Taytay Bay, with alluring islands in the background. One of them must surely be Apulit, home of Club Noah Isabelle.

Past Taytay came a first-ever glimpse of Bacuit Bay, off El Nido, with several islands near the coast filled with mangroves. Like Coron Bay, with its hidden lakes, and Taytay Bay, with its fauna-

EL NIDO/D4



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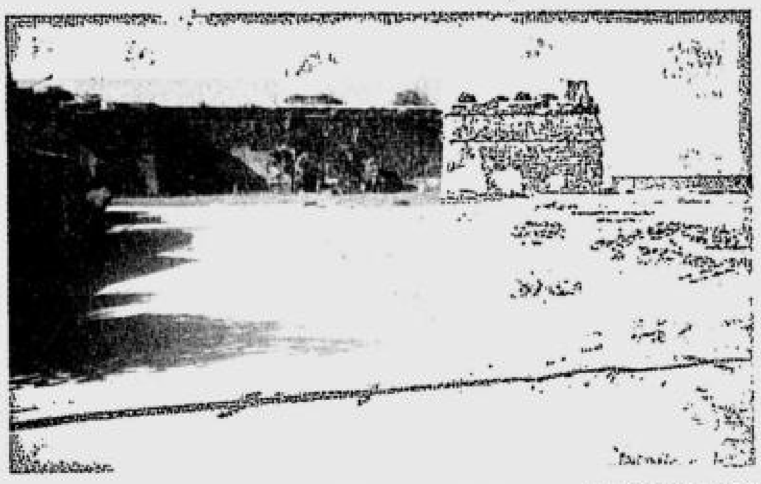
El Nido beckons



HISTORIC Port Barton in Taytay, Palawan, on the road to El Nido

CENTURIES-OLD marble cliff beside modern Javlon House

From page D1

friendly islands, Bacuit Bay, with its hidden lagoons, is one of the glories of Northern Palawan.

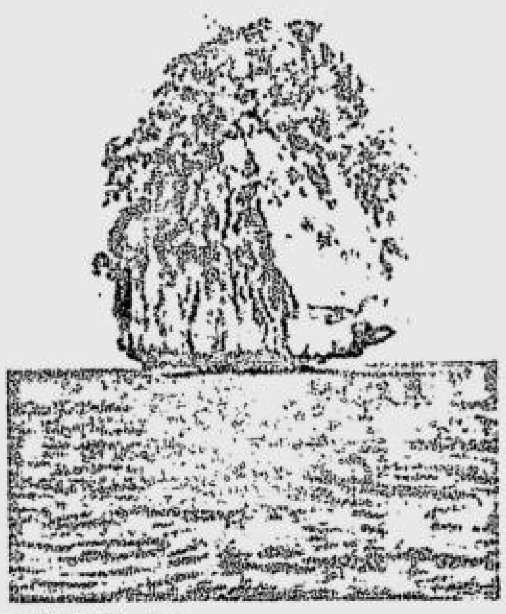
It was night when we finally arrived at El Nido, which blunted the town's impact upon me. But even in the darkness, my myopic eyes could already discern the towering cliffs of marble and limestone, which ring part of the town, and imbue El Nido with its distinct character. Without these marvels of the sea, El Nido would be just another coastal town.

Black marble wall

The influx of tourists has raised the prices of foodstuff in El Nido, and local residents complain about this. One kilo of chicken costs more than in Manila, and a *platito* (small dish) of chicken *afritada* goes for P40 in an eatery. The town has many budget inns and lodging houses, but the prices may be tourist-oriented.

As for me, thanks to good friend Navy Capt. Mike Rodriguez, I was lucky enough to be accommodated at the Javlon House, a ministry of engineer Ernesto Fernandez and his sister Teresita F. Laumond (married to a Frenchman). The Fernandez family has converted their heart-shaped Matinloc Island into a Marian shrine ("Look for the heart of my Son in Matinloc") and a retreat-house with modern facilities.

EARLY morning at El Nido beach



SENTINEL of the sea

Homey and comfortable, with a garden trellis, Javlon House stands right beside a sheer wall of black marble with white-washed streaks, and trees and vegetation up high.

Caretakers Minda, Abe and Totoy were very attentive. With some amusement, Abe recalled that some guests were afraid that portions of the marble wall would fall upon the house. But the mission house has been there for years—and the cliff has been there for centuries—and nothing has happened.

You wake up early and the first thing you see outside your window is the wall. You can reach out to touch it—well, almost.

Just walk around town for a few minutes and you will soon come upon the beach front and get a preview of what Bacuit Bay has in store for you. There's a big, wide beach cove and coastal cliffs and mountains, pump boats, trees, houses and nearby islands.

Nearing completion by the pier is the garishly pink building of the Philippine Ports Authority. Television and radio programs from Metro Manila are heard in El Nido, but there are no newspapers. Electricity is on only from 1 p.m.-1 a.m.

For this budget tourist, another bonus from Javlon Int'l. (Phils.) came in the form of a cruise around the bay, and lunch at Matinloc Island. Nearby is Tapiutan Island, also owned by the Fernandezes, with cottages that used to serve as military barracks. At least one navy patrol boat always hovers around the area to protect the resorts.

Hidden lagoon

We passed by Miniloc Island, and young Japanese tourists who were kayaking and snorkeling, waved at us. Some were proceeding to the famous hidden lagoon, accessible only by canoe through a hole in the wall.

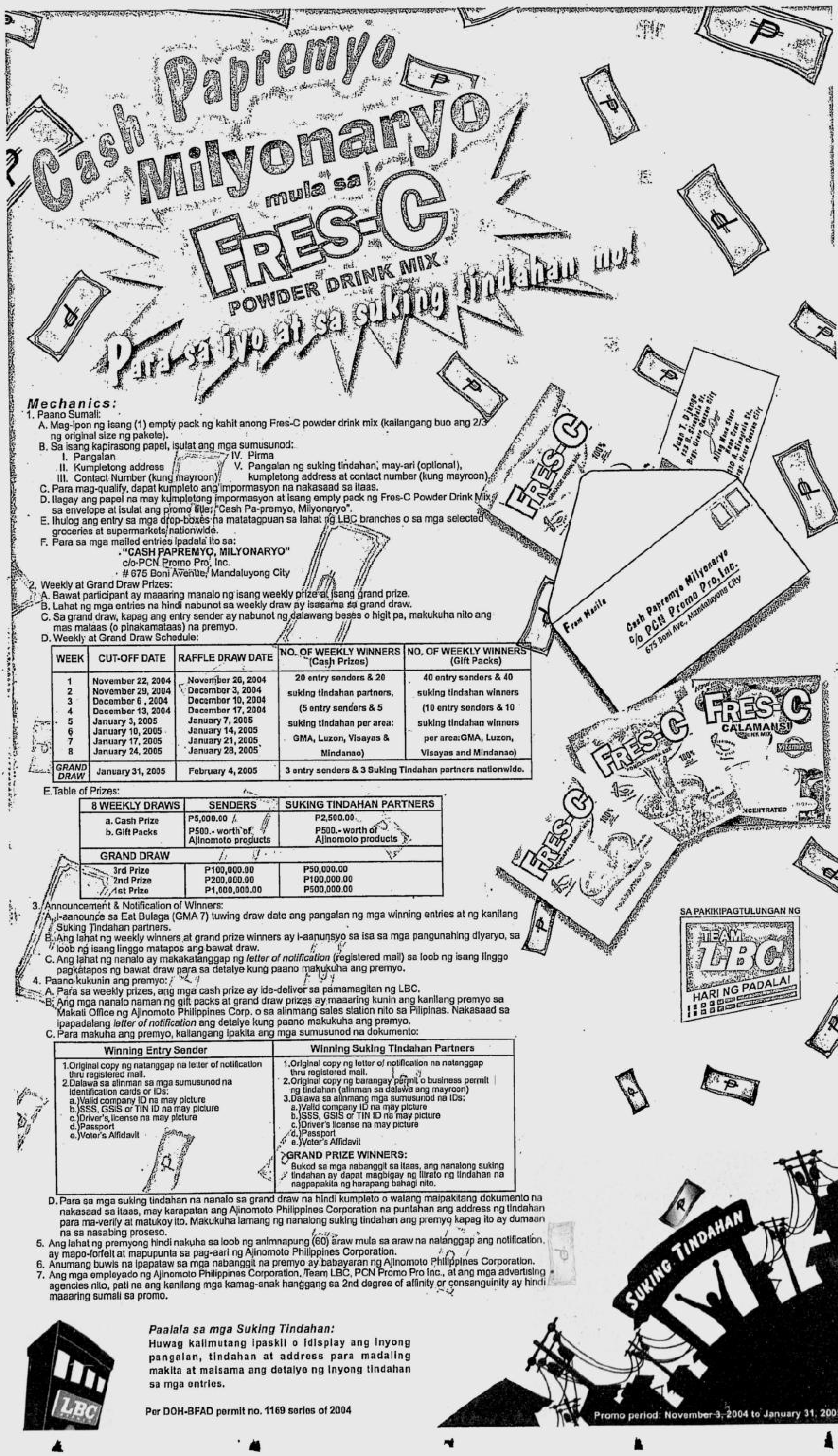
Excitedly the boatman pointed to a *pawikan* swimming in the moderately rough coastal waters. (It is windy in Palawan from October to February.)

Like the Calamian Group of Islands farther north and the isles of Taytay Bay, the islands of Bacuit Bay have different shapes and contours, ranging from massive and fortress-like to graceful and undulating. One vaguely resembles a chopper at rest, and is thus called Helicopter Island.

Ah, face to face at last with El Nido's seascape, marine life, black marble and limestone cliffs garlanded by yucca flowers and *talisay* trees, and jagged rock formations. They don't seem that impressive from a distance, especially if you have seen comparable ecodestinations in Palawan. But as the pump boat approaches, you feel awed by the natural grandeur. These cliffs are said to be millions of years old.

This is part of the El Nido-Taytay Managed Protected Area, one of seven such sanctuaries in Palawan. The others are: Calauit Game Preserve & Wildlife Sanctuary, Coron Island Protected Area, Malampaya Sound Land and Seascape Protected Area, Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park, Tubbataha Reef National Marine Park, and Ursula Island Game Refuge and Bird Sanctuary.

SAN Joaquin street along the poblacion



Mechanics:

1. Paano Sumali:
   A. Mag-ipon ng isang (1) empty pack ng kahit anong Fres-C powder drink mix (kailangang buo ang 2/3 ng original size ng pakete).
   B. Sa isang kapirasong papel, isulat ang mga sumusunod:
      I. Pangalan
      II. Kumpletong address
      III. Contact Number (kung mayroon)
      IV. Pirma
      V. Pangalan ng suking tindahan, may-ari (optional), kumpletong address at contact number (kung mayroon).
   C. Para mag-qualify, dapat kumpleto ang impormasyon na nakasaad sa itaas.
   D. Ilagay ang papel na may kumpletong impormasyon at isang empty pack ng Fres-C Powder Drink Mix sa envelope at isulat ang promo title: "Cash Pa-premyo, Milyonaryo".
   E. Ihulog ang entry sa mga drop-boxes na matatagpuan sa lahat ng LBC branches o sa mga selected groceries at supermarkets nationwide.
   F. Para sa mga mailed entries ipadala ito sa:

"CASH PAPREMYO, MILYONARYO"
c/o PCN Promo Pro, Inc.
675 Boni Avenue, Mandaluyong City

2. Weekly at Grand Draw Prizes:
   A. Bawat participant ay maaaring manalo ng isang weekly prize at isang grand prize.
   B. Lahat ng mga entries na hindi nabunot sa weekly draw ay isasama sa grand draw.
   C. Sa grand draw, kapag ang entry sender ay nabunot ng dalawang beses o higit pa, makukuha nito ang mas mataas (o pinakamataas) na premyo.
   D. Weekly at Grand Draw Schedule:

WEEK	CUT-OFF DATE	RAFFLE DRAW DATE	NO. OF WEEKLY WINNERS (Cash Prizes)	NO. OF WEEKLY WINNERS (Gift Packs)
1	November 22, 2004	November 26, 2004	20 entry senders & 20 suking tindahan partners, (5 entry senders & 5 suking tindahan per area: GMA, Luzon, Visayas & Mindanao)	40 entry senders & 40 suking tindahan winners (10 entry senders & 10 suking tindahan winners per area:GMA, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao)
2	November 29, 2004	December 3, 2004		
3	December 6 , 2004	December 10, 2004		
4	December 13, 2004	December 17, 2004		
5	January 3, 2005	January 7, 2005		
6	January 10, 2005	January 14, 2005		
7	January 17, 2005	January 21, 2005		
8	January 24, 2005	January 28, 2005		
GRAND DRAW	January 31, 2005	February 4, 2005	3 entry senders & 3 Suking Tindahan partners nationwide.	

   E. Table of Prizes:

8 WEEKLY DRAWS	SENDERS	SUKING TINDAHAN PARTNERS
a. Cash Prize	P5,000.00	P2,500.00
b. Gift Packs	P500.- worth of Ajinomoto products	P500.- worth of Ajinomoto products
GRAND DRAW		
3rd Prize	P100,000.00	P50,000.00
2nd Prize	P200,000.00	P100,000.00
1st Prize	P1,000,000.00	P500,000.00

3. Announcement & Notification of Winners:
   A. I-aanounce sa Eat Bulaga (GMA 7) tuwing draw date ang pangalan ng mga winning entries at ng kanilang Suking Tindahan partners.
   B. Ang lahat ng weekly winners at grand prize winners ay i-aanunsyo sa isa sa mga pangunahing diyaryo, sa loob ng isang linggo matapos ang bawat draw.
   C. Ang lahat ng nanalo ay makakatanggap ng *letter of notification* (registered mail) sa loob ng isang linggo pagkatapos ng bawat draw para sa detalye kung paano makukuha ang premyo.
4. Paano kukunin ang premyo:
   A. Para sa weekly prizes, ang mga cash prize ay ide-deliver sa pamamagitan ng LBC.
   B. Ang mga nanalo naman ng gift packs at grand draw prizes ay maaaring kunin ang kanilang premyo sa Makati Office ng Ajinomoto Philippines Corp. o sa alinmang sales station nito sa Pilipinas. Nakasaad sa ipapadalang *letter of notification* ang detalye kung paano makukuha ang premyo.
   C. Para makuha ang premyo, kailangang ipakita ang mga sumusunod na dokumento:

Winning Entry Sender	Winning Suking Tindahan Partners
1.Original copy ng natanggap na letter of notification thru registered mail. 2.Dalawa sa alinman sa mga sumusunod na identification cards or IDs: a.)Valid company ID na may picture b.)SSS, GSIS or TIN ID na may picture c.)Driver's license na may picture d.)Passport e.)Voter's Affidavit	1.Original copy ng letter of notification na natanggap thru registered mail. 2.Original copy ng barangay permit o business permit ng tindahan (alinman sa dalawa ang mayroon) 3.Dalawa sa alinmang mga sumusunod na IDs: a.)Valid company ID na may picture b.)SSS, GSIS or TIN ID na may picture c.)Driver's license na may picture d.)Passport e.)Voter's Affidavit GRAND PRIZE WINNERS: Bukod sa mga nabanggit sa itaas, ang nanalong suking tindahan ay dapat magbigay ng litrato ng tindahan na nagpapakita ng harapang bahagi nito.

   D. Para sa mga suking tindahan na nanalo sa grand draw na hindi kumpleto o walang maipakitang dokumento na nakasaad sa itaas, may karapatan ang Ajinomoto Philippines Corporation na puntahan ang address ng tindahan para ma-verify at matukoy ito. Makukuha lamang ng nanalong suking tindahan ang premyo kapag ito ay dumaan na sa nasabing proseso.
5. Ang lahat ng premyong hindi nakuha sa loob ng animnapung (60) araw mula sa araw na natanggap ang notification, ay mapo-forfeit at mapupunta sa pag-aari ng Ajinomoto Philippines Corporation.
6. Anumang buwis na ipapataw sa mga nabanggit na premyo ay babayaran ng Ajinomoto Philippines Corporation.
7. Ang mga empleyado ng Ajinomoto Philippines Corporation, Team LBC, PCN Promo Pro Inc., at ang mga advertising agencies nito, pati na ang kanilang mga kamag-anak hanggang sa 2nd degree of affinity or consanguinity ay hindi maaaring sumali sa promo.

Paalala sa mga Suking Tindahan:
Huwag kalimutang ipaskil o idisplay ang inyong pangalan, tindahan at address para madaling makita at maisama ang detalye ng inyong tindahan sa mga entries.

Per DOH-BFAD permit no. 1169 series of 2004

Promo period: November 3, 2004 to January 31, 2005

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2004

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Sunday LIFESTYLE *Home*

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Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/city/message to
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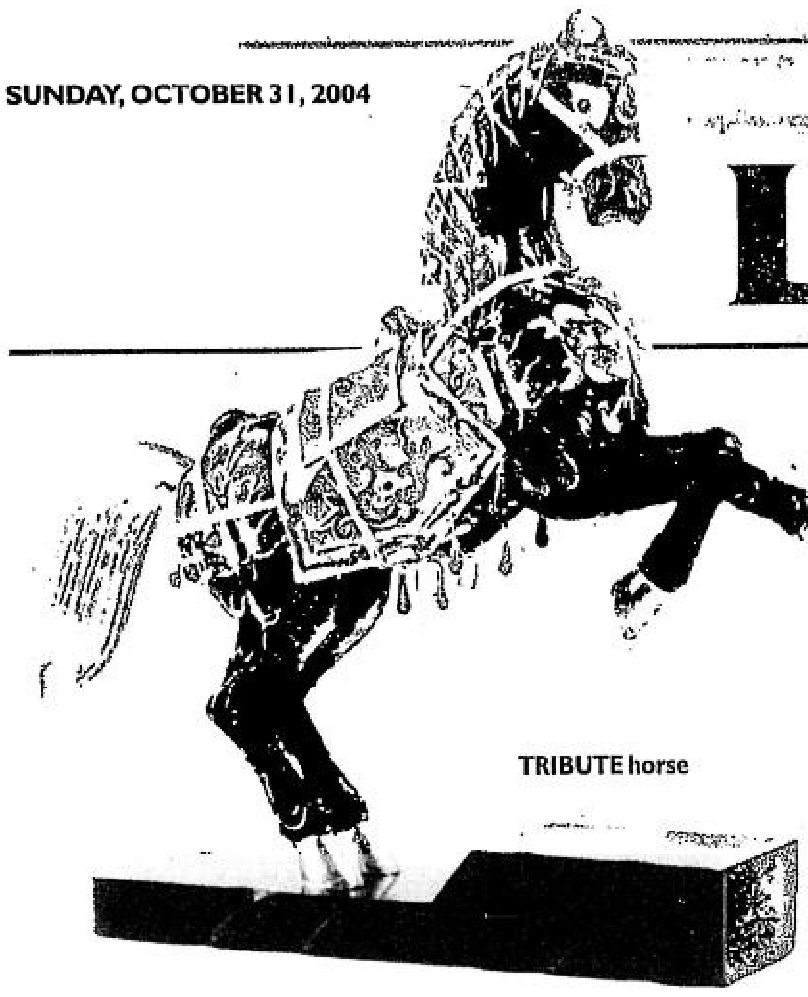

TRIBUTE horse

SINGING bowl and ringing bell

FROM THE WORLD'S FAVOURITE WRITER ON FENG SHUI COMES THIS EXCITING NEW BOOK
FENG SHUI FOR INTERIORS
LILLIAN TOO
108 ways to protect, cleanse, energize and empower the chi of your home

Feng shui specialty boutique opens

THE WORLD of Feng Shui, a chain of boutiques founded by Lillian Too, has opened its branch in the Philippines at the G/F The Podium, ADB Avenue, Ortigas, Pasig City.

The very first franchisee in the Philippines of the World of Feng Shui Co. Inc. (WOFS) offers a wide selection of feng shui-related items, articles, books and more.

It also offers consultations and other services related to health, lore, harmony, career, wealth, knowledge, home and office designs.

Marites Allen, president and chief executive officer of WOFS Phils. Inc., says there are now over 30 boutiques in the United States, Asia and Europe.

Too, a Malaysian and former banker, has been involved in feng shui for over 30 years. Considered the world's No. 1 selling writer on feng shui, she has written over 50 best-selling books that have been translated into 28 languages. Aside from the chain of boutiques worldwide, WOFS also publishes the Feng Shui World magazine and conducts courses and certification programs on feng shui.

Feng shui means wind and water. It is the science of choosing a living surrounding where the elements and the energies are harmoniously balanced, making life good to people who live in that surrounding.

Allen says the shop has arts and crafts; auspicious lacquerware and sailing ships; authentic feng shui merchandise; books, candles and lamps, CDs, videos and audio cassettes; crystals, Chinese fine arts, fountains, water features, tools, fashion and accessories; greeting cards; health and beauty care products; incenses and burners; mirrors and fans; wind chimes, bells and singing bowls; semiprecious stones, soft furnishings, antiques, I-Ching coins and wealth artifacts from all over Asia.

LAUGHING Buddha

pleas • ant sur • prise / plez′ənt sə(r)prīz′ /
When bacon met maple syrup one fine morning.
New
PUREFOODS
Maple Flavored Bacon
Sweet Smelling.
Sweet Tasting.
Too good to resist.

EXTENDED!

Sa Bawat Load,*

₱1 Million Ar

Papremyo!

May 10% Extra Load p

SMART
Simply Amazing
SMART
PADA
Winner ka sa SMART!

Tuloy-tuloy na ang Milyong-mily
mula sa SMART!

aw-Araw

pa Agad-agad!

ART
.L.A
ENTER
SMART
10% Extra Load
10% Extra Load

yong Papremyo

EXTENDED*

up to

NOV. 23, 2004.

Sa halagang ₱30 lang maaari ka nang maging SMART Milyonaryo! Kaya register na for FREE at mag-Load araw-araw!

Para mag-register sa raffle key in MILYON space REG space <Full Name>*<Address>* <Birthday-mmddyyyy>* <Gender-M or F>

MILYON REG
Mica Cruz*
12 Sta. Cruz St.,
Manila*03191981*
F

Send to 270

270

(Siguraduhing mag-register para mag-earn ng raffle entries.)

To check the number of raffle entries earned* key in MILYON ENTRY
(Cost: ₱2.50 per inquiry)

MILYON ENTRY

Send to 270

270

*Raffle entries earned per load are qualified for the daily draw but will be reflected the following day.

Sa bawat load mo ng SMART Buddy Load o Talk 'N Text Load, panalo ka! May 10% extra load ka na—FREE, meron ka pang raffle entry para sa ₱1 Milyong papremyo araw-araw!

SMART Load Denomination	10% Extra Load	Raffle Entries Earned
Php 30	₱ 3.00	1 entry
Php 60	₱ 6.00	3 entries
Php 115	₱ 12.00	10 entries
Php 200	₱ 20.00	20 entries

Available only for:

Buddy Load   Talk 'N Text Load

SMART Padala Transactions will not earn raffle entries.

SMART
Simply Amazing!

[illegible]

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Forest 'returns' to La Mesa

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

BANTAY Kalikasan (Filipino for Environment Watch) is one of ABS-CBN Foundation's frontline projects currently being undertaken to maintain the La Mesa Watershed, once known simply as La Mesa Dam.

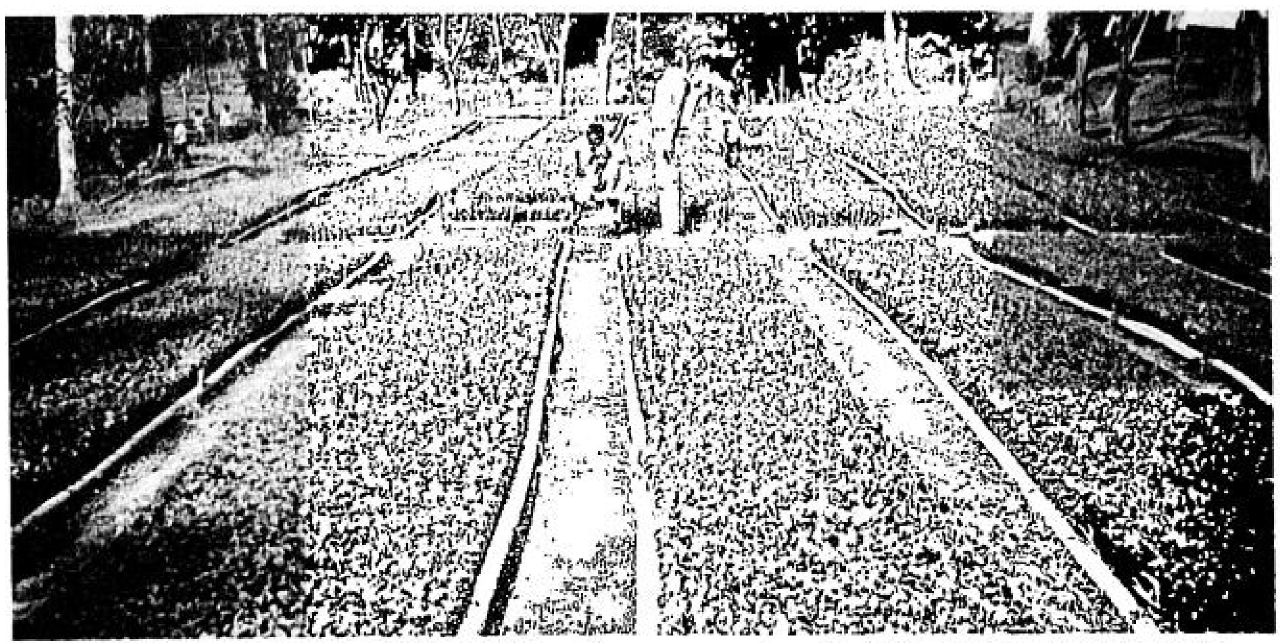
The watershed is adjacent to the Sierra Madre mountain range that lies astride Caloocan, Rizal and Quezon City. Its proximity to urban Metro Manila doubles its importance, because it supplies water to millions of people in the area.

Gina Lopez, the foundation's managing director, sees the need to maintain La Mesa not only because it is a filtration and water reservoir (though this would be reason enough), but also because it is beautifully green. It is one of, if not the only, watersheds left in the area, she says.

A forest grows there that must be conserved. It is habitat to several kinds of wildlife and, to many Manilans, especially the younger generation, it is the most accessible place to experience a forest.

When Bantay Kalikasan came into the scene in 1998, almost half of the watershed's 2,700 hectares had been denuded or in a state of degradation. Its workers, many of them volunteers, had to contend with poachers and illegal loggers, who would resort to killing and burning to attain their ends. But Bantay Kalikasan was determined to do its job.

Using its media resources, as well as government and private support, it campaigns for more public awareness of its environmental cause. It has planned it so that La Mesa can truly become an environmental preserve not only to serve entire communities but to provide individuals with an amusement place. The trees planted there, for the most part, endemic—*banaba, kamagong, dao, guijo, ipil*, mahogany, *molave, narra, lauan*, and others—are now occupying 1,200 hectares since, and they are surviving well.



BANTAY Kalikasan grows an average of 150,000 seedlings every year to maintain its reforestation program for La Mesa watershed.

The first trees were officially planted in 1999, though planting started the year before. What Gina Lopez wishes to inculcate in the public is a simple equation: the more trees, the more water produced.

To secure the safety of the watershed, 10 watch towers (of various materials) have been constructed. These serve as lookouts in case of fire or other untoward incidents. In tree-planting, spacing is considered of primary importance, as well as drawing up of firelines so that fire, should one crop up, does not spread readily.

Eco-Park

To complement the forested areas, says Marlo Mendoza, Bantay Kalikasan executive director, an Eco-Park is being created on 30 hectares. The idea is to make it a fun destination for families, especially children. Already, 38 km of forest trails and roads have been laid out for hiking, horse riding, biking and all-out nature tripping. Improvements have also been done on the lake site for swimming, boating, and even fishing.

An Ecology Center will rise in the park for lectures and briefings, as well as a Museum of Natural History designed to continue developing through the years. Proceeds from these features will go into further improvement of the Eco-Park.

Concert party

Bantay Kalikasan does not wish to tarry too long on this VIP (very important project) and, in fact, would like to see it completed by 2005. It has organized a fund-raising event geared to prick the interest of young and old.

"Motown in Motion" is a big dance concert party with a '60s theme. The '60s era was chosen because it was an age when strong statements on art, music and culture, in general were made, some of which still linger today.

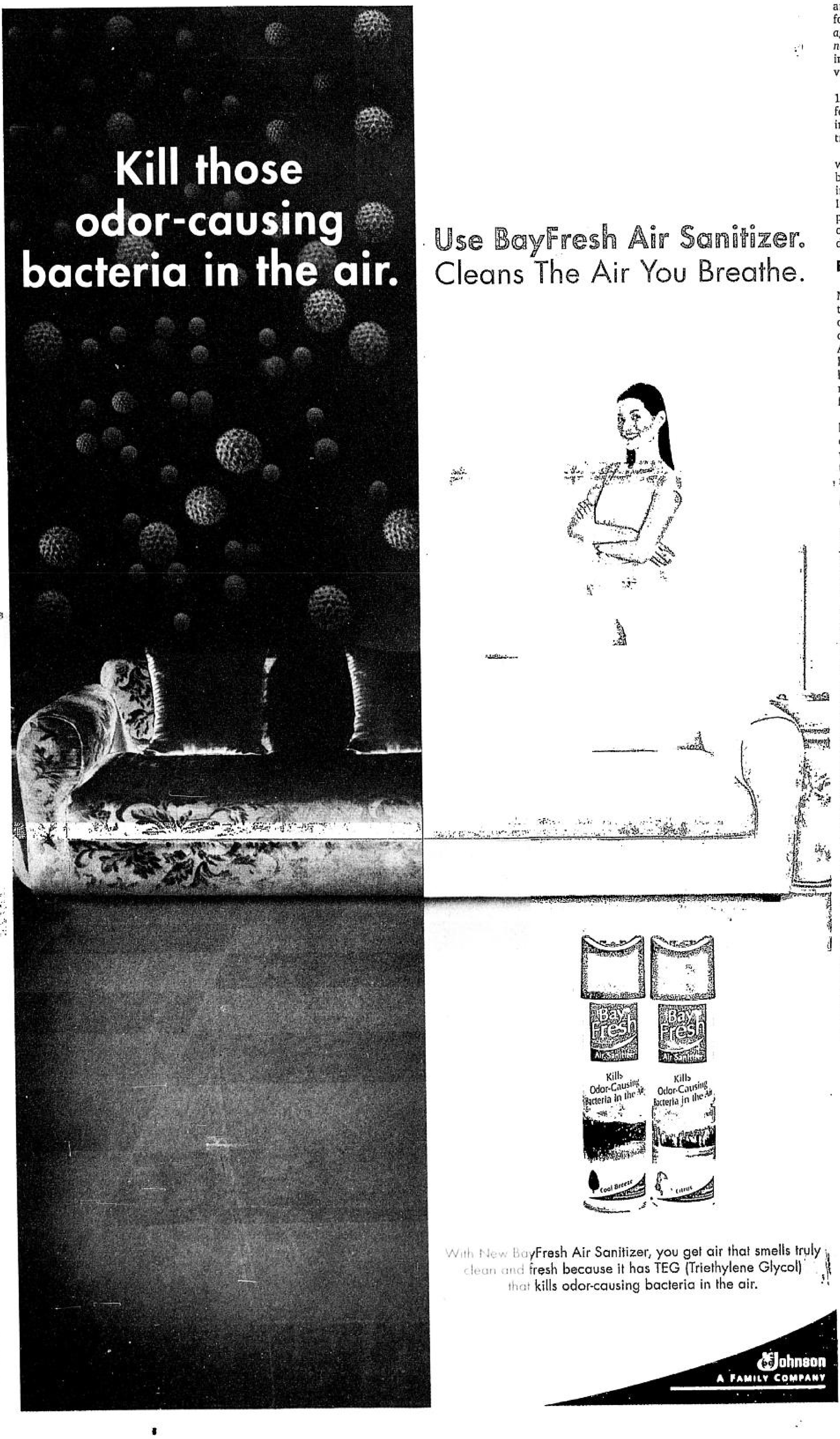
Bantay Kalikasan feels that duplicating these strong points will help its present environmental mission. The concert party will be held Nov. 17 at the NBC Tent at The Fort. While it will recall the sounds of such Motown stars as Michael Jackson, Smokey Robinson, Stevie Wonder and other American icons, it will also feature Filipino talents like Rico J. Puno, Hajji Alejandro, Jacqui Magno, Verni Varga, Richard Merck, and hot young stars Nina, Kyla, Paolo Santos, Jimmy Bondoc, Bituin Escalante, Akafellas and many others.

Party cohosts will be Ariel Ureta and Mitch Valdez.

Call Angie at the Manila Peninsula newsstand, tel. 8166601

E-mail the author at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com

MORE than 15,000 volunteers, some of them schoolchildren, have enlisted to help plant trees in La Mesa.



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Use BayFresh Air Sanitizer. Cleans The Air You Breathe.

With New BayFresh Air Sanitizer, you get air that smells truly clean and fresh because it has TEG (Triethylene Glycol) that kills odor-causing bacteria in the air.

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A FAMILY COMPANY
Bay Fresh
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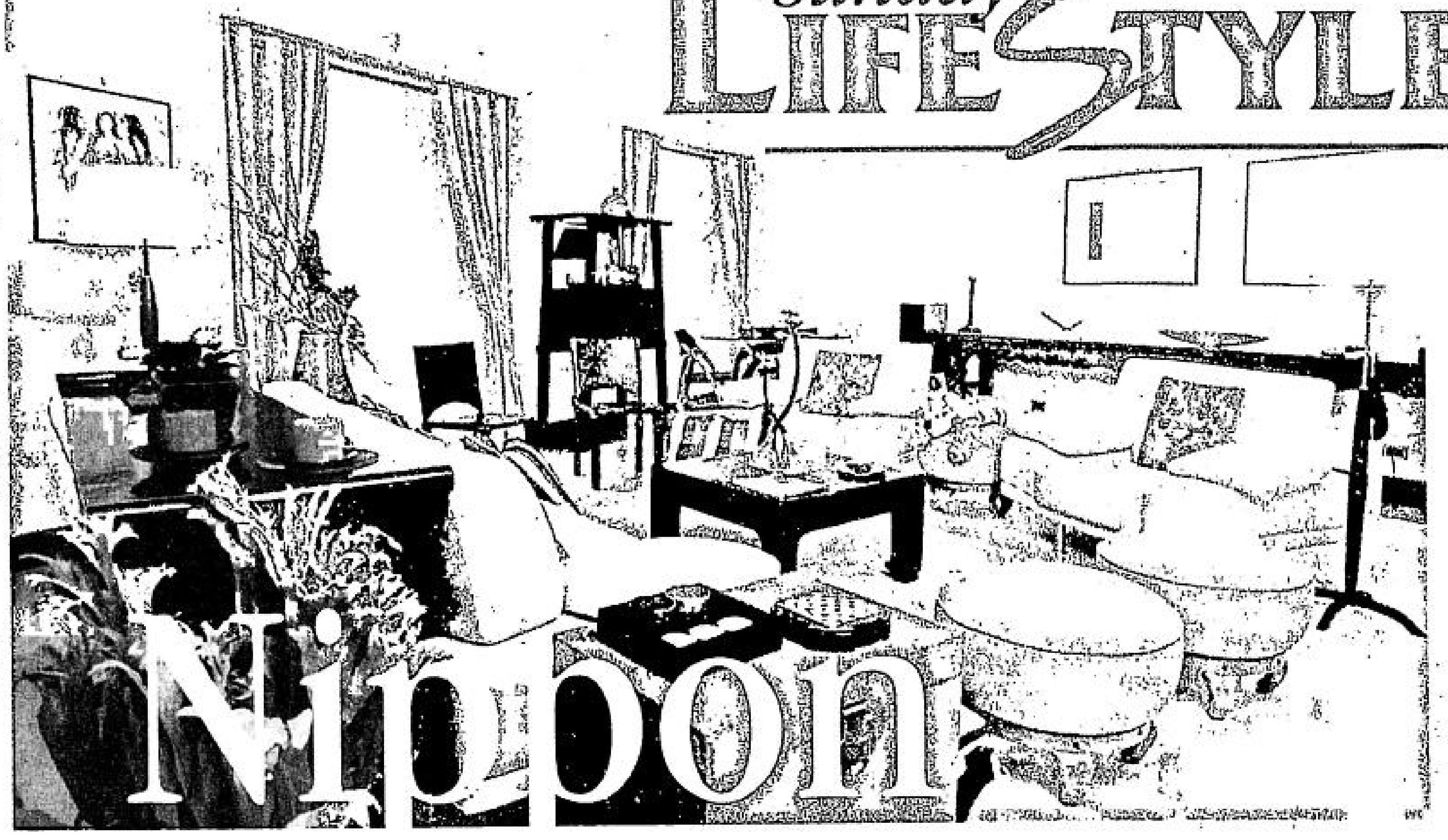
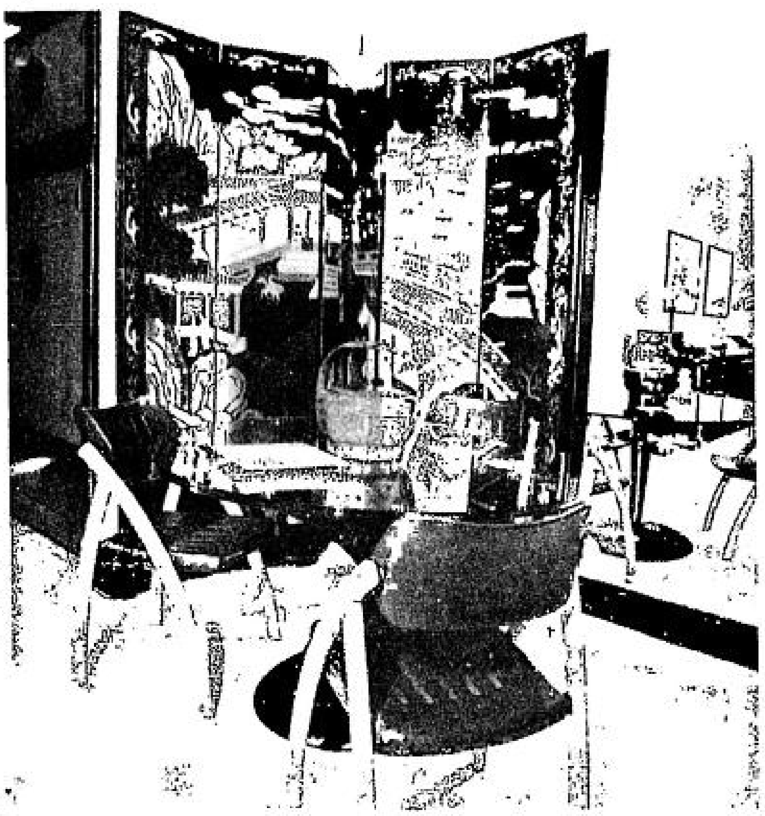




THE LIVING room's (left) color scheme echoes that of the Chinese-made divider (above). The two black folding chairs are of Italian origin.

Nippon meets Northern lights

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Menchit Ongpin

Can you do your own home interiors and not regret it? Sure, says this designing woman

BEFORE SHE and her husband moved to their condominium unit at one of Essensa's imposing residential towers a few years ago, the wife had already set her heart on a contemporary home with Japanese and Chinese touches.

Instead of hiring the services of an interior designer, as is de rigueur among residents of the upscale address, she was determined to do the place herself. After paying a fortune for the unit, the couple (names withheld upon request) couldn't spare a few pesos more.

Of course, they're just being modest. But despite all the headaches she went through, the wife, who cooks as well as she designs, doesn't regret her decision to roll up her sleeves and put on an interior designer's hat.

"My taste is really eclectic," she says. "I'm partial to the Japanese look, which is a bit askew. Overall, however, it [the look] always manages to have harmony."

In between managing the family's export business, the couple, especially the wife, scoured Metro Manila in search of ideal furniture and accent pieces. She also had to deal with several finishers and furniture makers, some of whom took almost "forever" to deliver the goods.

"It's a good thing the building's construction had been delayed," the wife says with a chuckle. "Otherwise, we would have moved into a half-empty house."

Unobtrusive yet elegant

The long wait seems to have been worth it. Unobtrusive yet elegant furniture pieces fashioned from assorted hardwood and made into beds, dressers, cabinets, tables and a huge étagère, all of which the wife herself designed, now occupy places of honor in the unit's three bedrooms, living room and dining area.

For want of a specific line or inspiration, the custom-built pieces can be described as Japanese meets Scandinavian. They're so cleanly made and sturdy that they act as ideal counterpoints to the textured Chinese antiques the wife has bought from such pricey haunts as Arts of Asia, Old Asia and Pointe East. She promptly converted them either as armoires or accent pieces to hide all the "clutter."

As they had to leave almost all their old furniture pieces behind, the wife also commissioned Antipolo-based designer Benjie Reyes to design and execute a number of accent pieces. Two such pieces are high-back wooden chairs featured in a corner of the living room.

"Even my clothes were left in the old house," says the wife. "That's another thing we learned about condo living. Due to limited space, you can't afford to hang on to things you have no use for."

Since the wife's closet, for instance, has just enough space for her clothes, she now has to part with one item to make room for another. One of the few things the

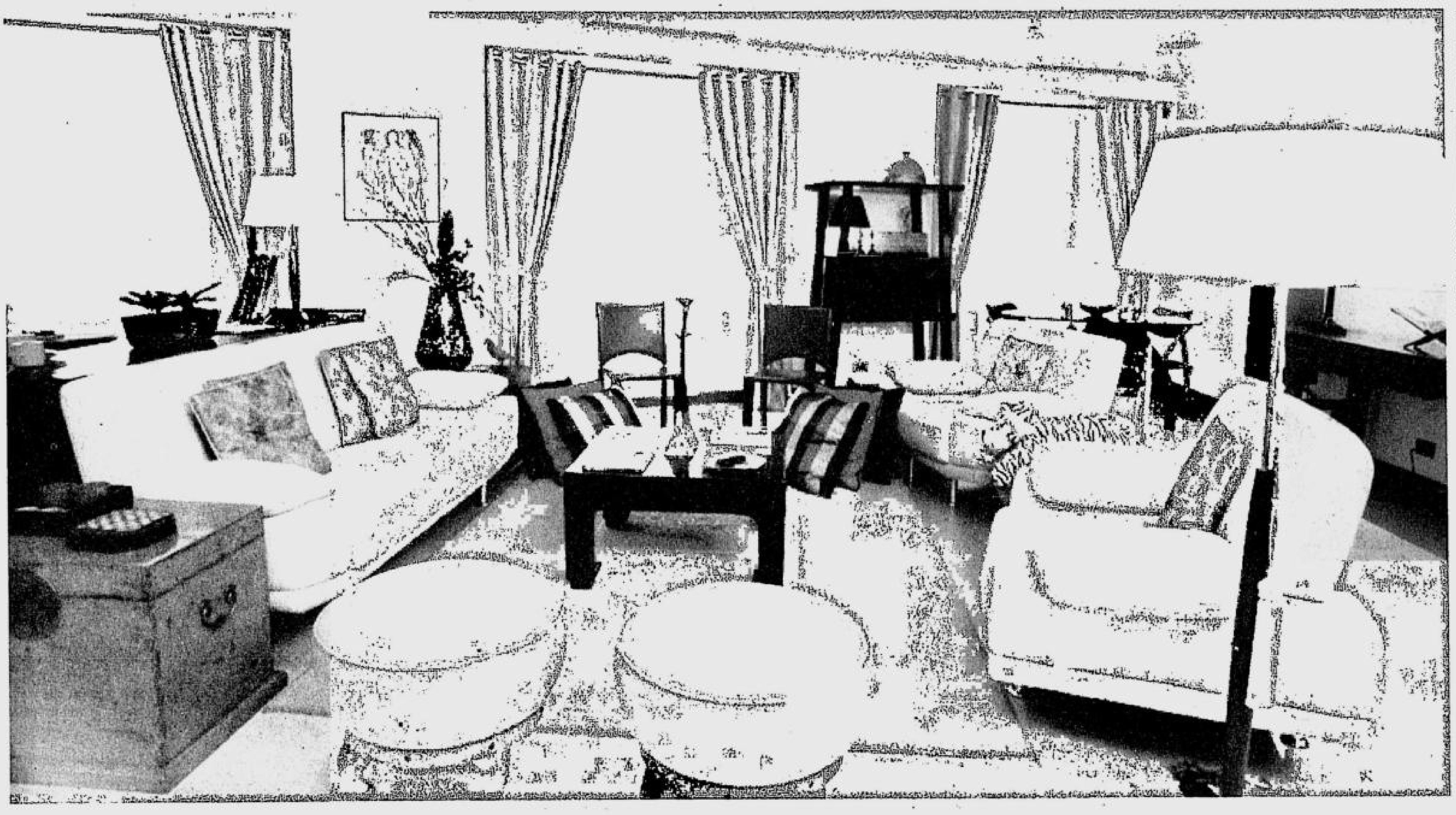
NIPPON/ F2

A HUGE étagère vies for space with a pair of accent chairs and a center table by Benjie Reyes in a corner of the living room.

USER-FRIENDLY kitchen manages to look spic and span.

Wish on a star and take a peek
at what's under the Christmas tree.
Clothes and shoes by Rustanette and Rustan, Jr.

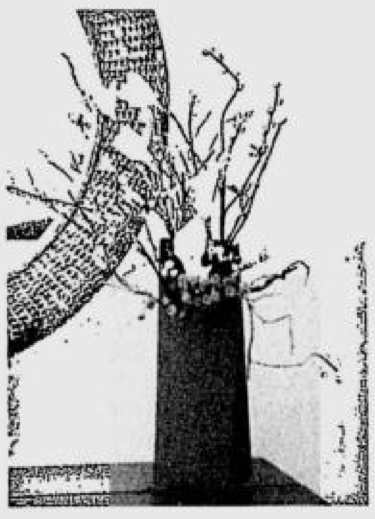
A Season of Grace
Rustan's
MAKATI • SHANGRI-LA PLAZA • ALABANG • HARRISON PLAZA • CUBAO • CEBU • ROBINSONS PLACE

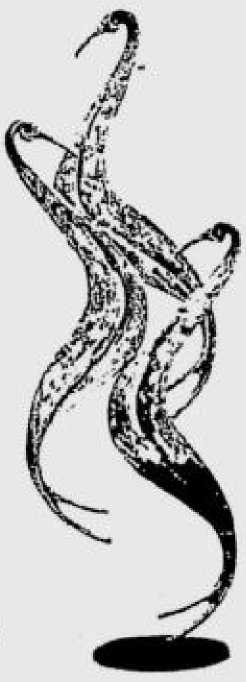


CHIN

ITALIAN-MADE leather furniture add a dash of retro-feel to the entire setup. The slab of stone on the coffee table was the Manchurian army's version of the teppanyaki table.

Nippon meets Northern lights





THE WIFE'S floral arrangement (above) and fluid accent piece (right)

From page F1

couple brought with them when they made the big move was a nondescript *narra* bookcase that now sits along the corridor leading to the bedrooms. It has been a silent witness to the family's changing fortunes.

"We were still living in an apartment in Cubao when we bought that bookcase," says the wife. "For some reason, it always manages to fit in wherever we go."

Best option

The couple, whose former address was in San Juan, found the old house too big for them. They promptly turned it into their office. After all, their eldest son is now married and practices medicine in Baguio, while their youngest son is also based most of the time there. Condo living has become the best option for the empty-nesters.

"You can lock up the unit and leave anytime," says the husband, referring to their new home. "Security and maintenance have now become the least of our worries."

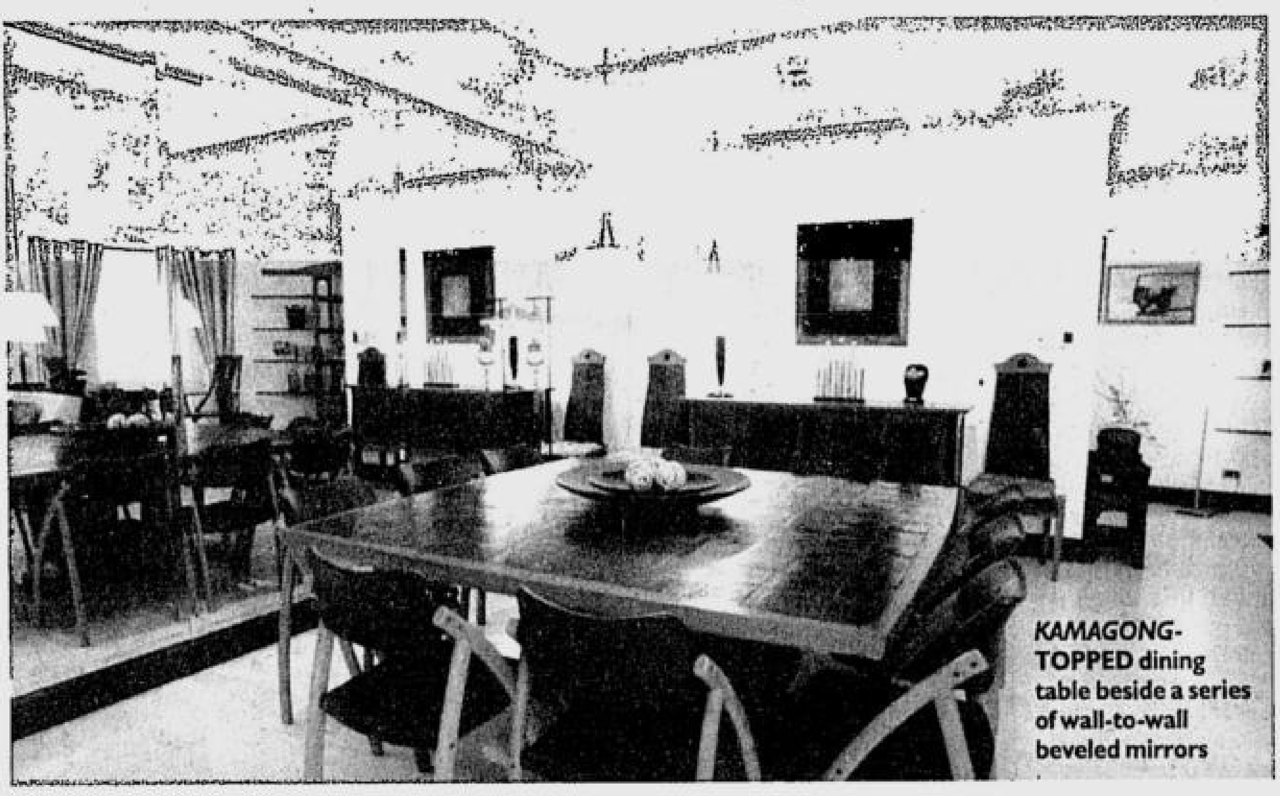
Still, it was no walk in the park to come up with the interesting but clutter-free interiors. It was a deliberate effort since the couple works most of the time in their factory, where they take in more than their fair share of stimuli.

The living room, for instance, is anchored on several key pieces: A set of light gray leather sofa and armchairs from Italy, a medium-size stone-topped black coffee table and an extra-long wooden buffet table that's equally expensive and difficult to transport.

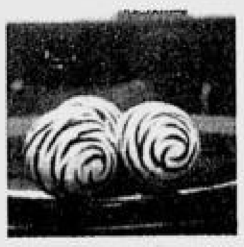
If anything, the couple's experience with the table is also a cautionary tale for future condo dwellers. It took sometime before the wife finally bought it, as she found it quite big and expensive. In fact, she dillydallied at first until someone beat her to it.

"I was thankful since I don't have to think about it anymore," she says. "But lo and behold, when I went back to the shop several days later, I saw the same table. It was already being sold at a discount."

The fellow who bought the table, whom the wife assumed was also from Essensa, was said to have returned it since it wouldn't fit in the elevator. She should have listened to her instincts and simply let go of it, but the markdown was too good to refuse. Besides she was really in love with the table, which the hubby eventually paid for in lieu of a new set of golf clubs he intended to give her for Christmas.



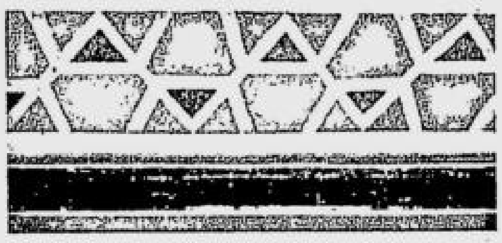
***KAMAGONG*-TOPPED** dining table beside a series of wall-to-wall beveled mirrors



TIGER'S eggs?

FROM LOWLY gift wrapper to framed work of art

ORIENTAL tassel



BASEBOARD echoes house's color scheme.

When delivery time came, the wife was "conveniently" out shopping. The task of receiving and supervising the deliverymen to haul the huge piece several floors up fell on the poor husband. And, boy, did they have to wrack their brains to figure out a way to do it since the table—you guessed it—wouldn't fit in the elevator or the stairs.

Luckily, a maintenance team was inspecting the elevator that day. They suggested that they transport the table on top instead of inside the elevator. That they eventually did, with two men holding the table as it stood on its side as the lift climbed slowly on "inspection" mode.

"I was so afraid my husband would kill me," says the amused wife, "that I asked my friend to accompany me home that day."

Retro-modern look

The Italian-made sofa, which passed the wife's exacting criteria on what a relaxing couch should be, imparts the living room with a retro-modern look. For a dash of color, she added two ox-blood red leather chairs, also from Italy, into the mix.

Since she and her husband lived several floors up, she used the model unit downstairs as a gauge every time she intended to buy furniture. For some reason, everything fell into place, including the color scheme, which the wife later learned matched the colors found on a Chinese-made divider she bought at Jo-Lisa's.

Light gray, ox-blood red, brown, black, off-white and touches of gold and silver are also the very same colors that make up the figures drawn on several of the divider's panels, two of which now function as double doors leading to the powder room.

"Isn't it amazing?" the wife gushes. "Nothing on the divider was retouched. The same thing happened in our bedroom, where the chaise lounge made of grayish blue leather matched the color of the curtains. It wasn't intentional."

To add an illusion of space to the living room and dining area, the wife had a series of mirrors with beveled edges installed by the dining table, a square 12-seater made from a series of square slabs of black *kamagong*.

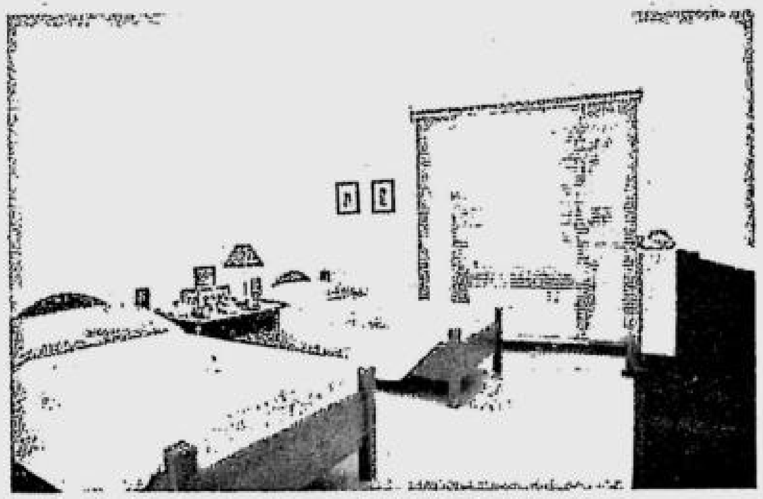
The wife had some of the artworks framed, including lithographs by Japanese artist Toko Shinodo, an antique Chinese scroll and, believe it or not, a sheet of lowly Japanese gift wrapping paper the couple bought in San Francisco. They're also proud owners of a BenCab and an Amylou Juinio.

"Don't be too dependent on your interior designer," says the wife. "As long as you know what you want and have the means to get them, don't be afraid to experiment. It's your home, anyway."

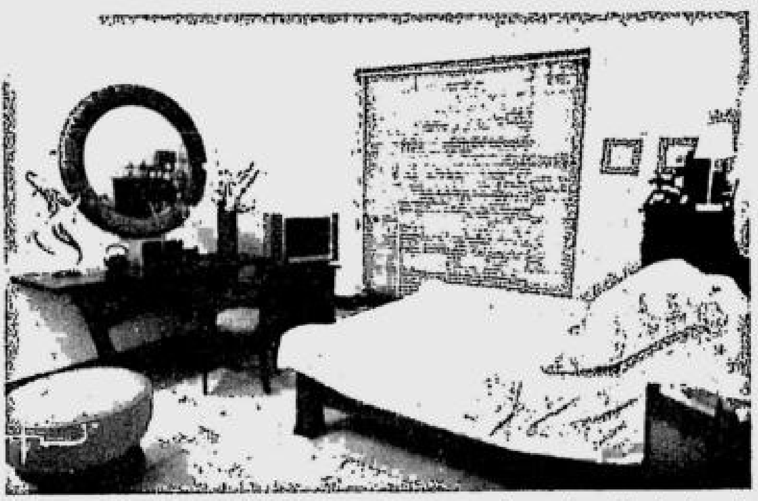
One more thing: Be sure that everything you buy fits in the elevator.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

MASTER bedroom



YOUNGEST son's bedroom



GUEST room features a number of furniture pieces the wife designed.

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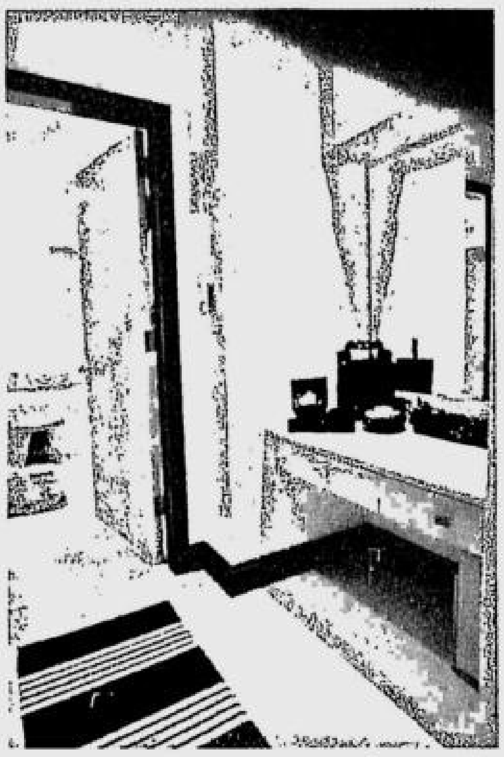
SE antique cabinet by the foyer


ORIENTAL knickknacks on the dresser

ANTIQUE cabinets in the powder room

WEDDING kimono given by a good friend of the couple

A PAIR of panels leading to the powder room

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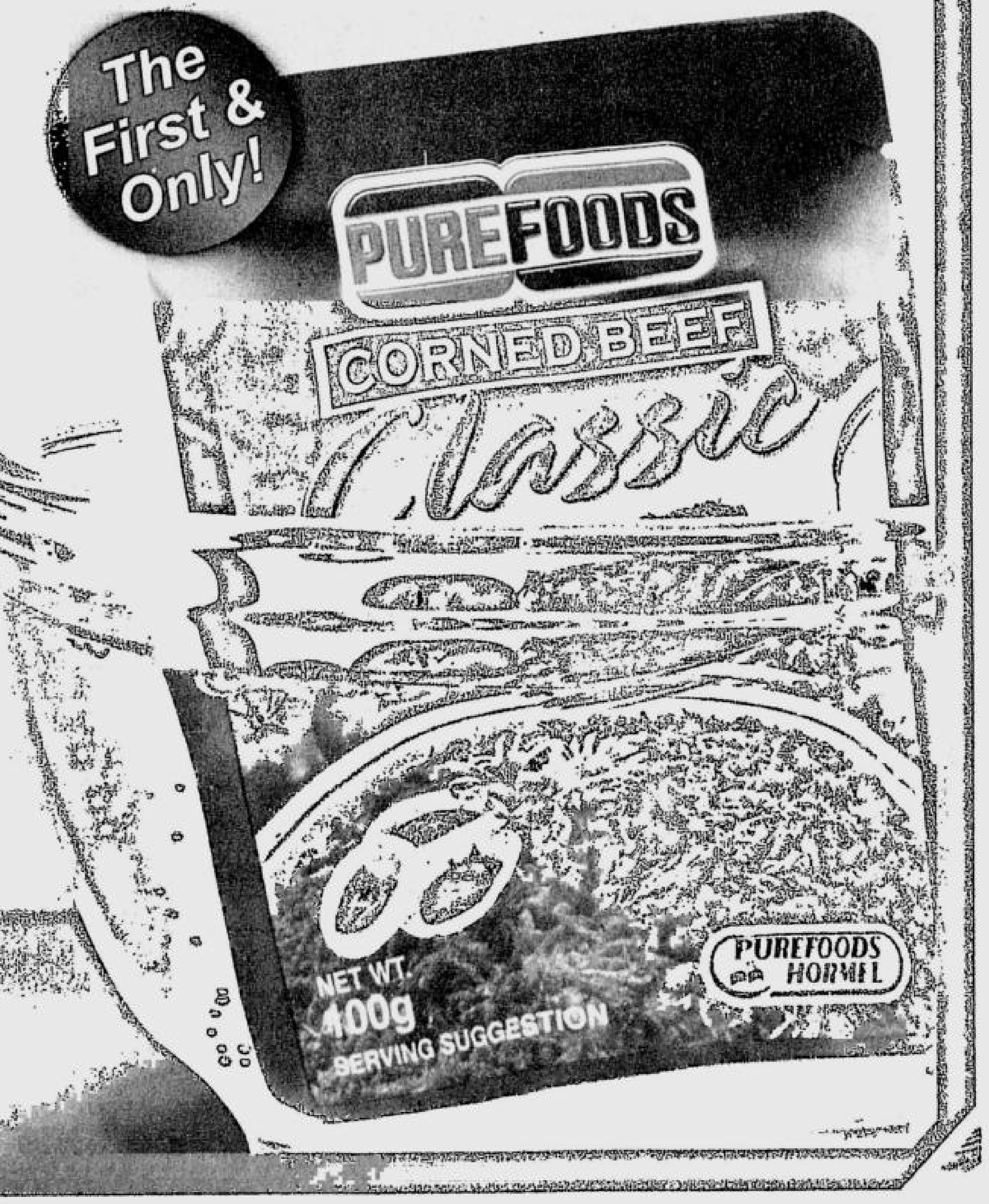
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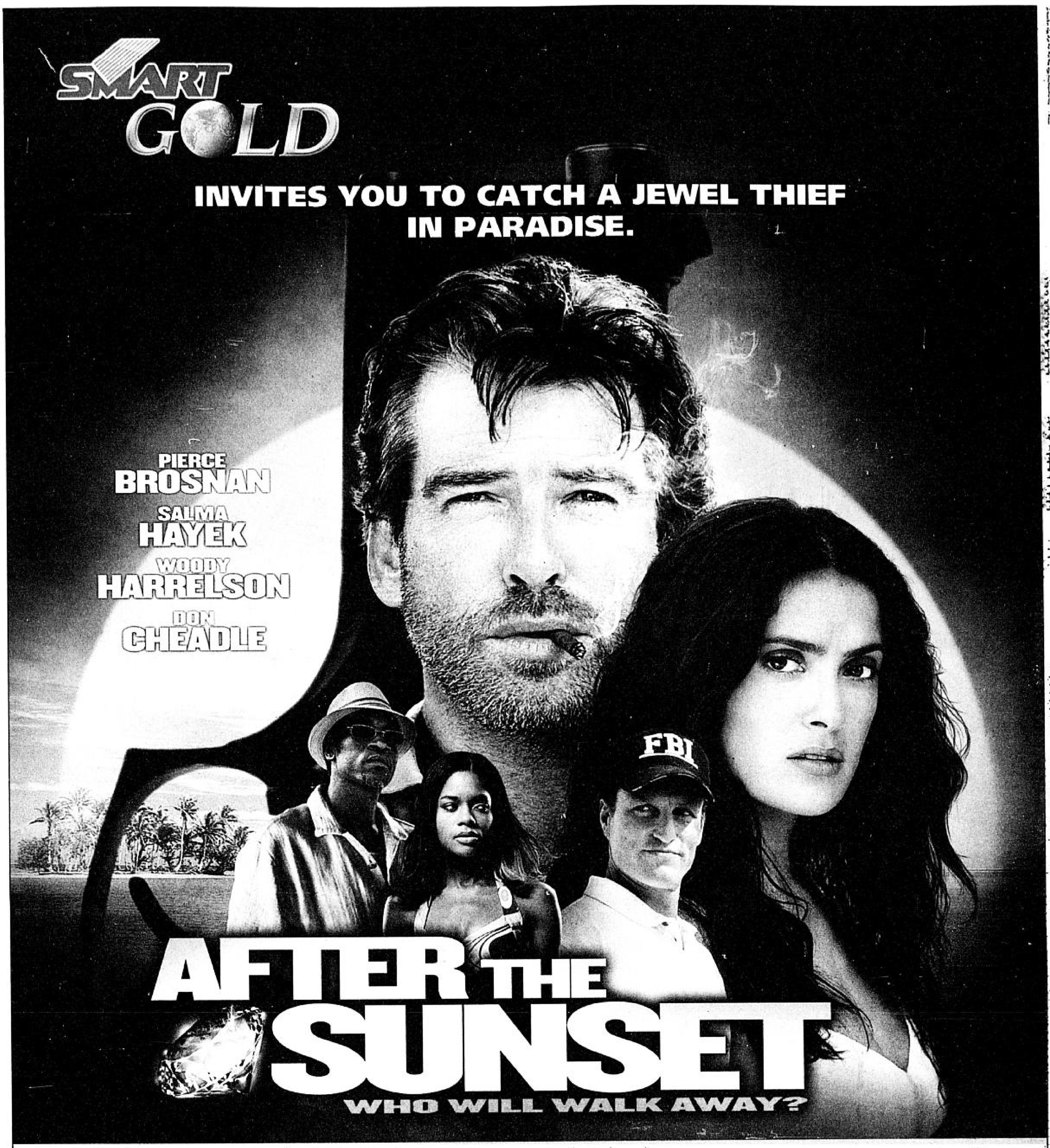
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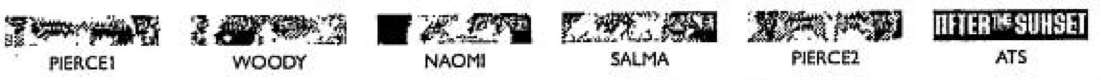
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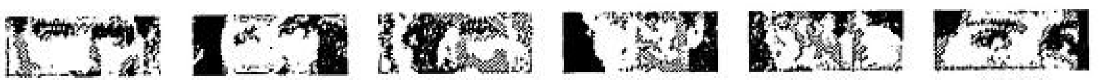
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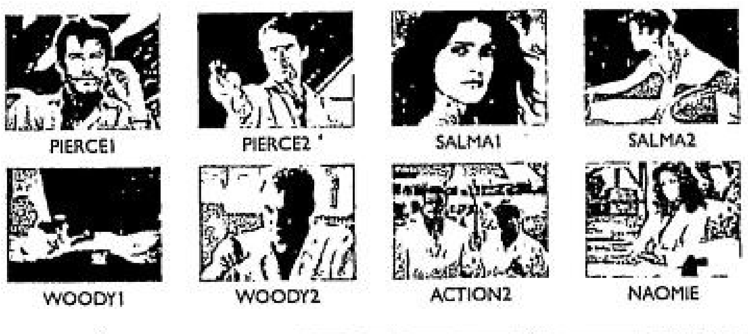
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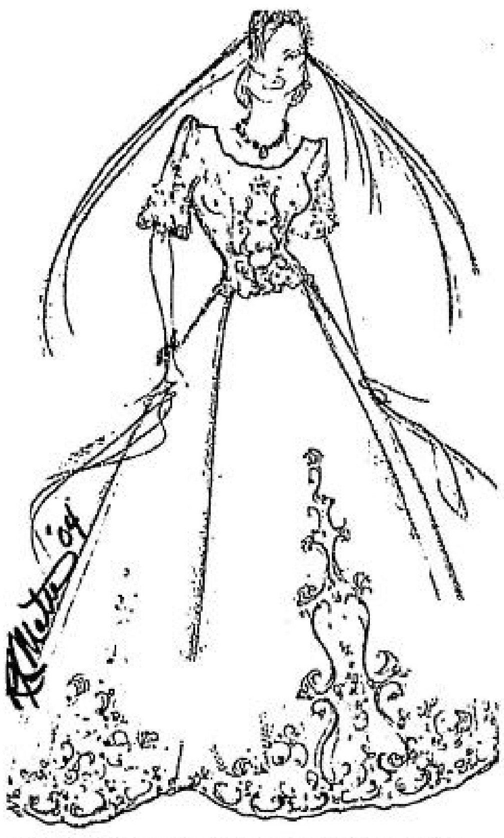

EUSEBIO 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Lino Eusebio Sr. and **Teresita Eusebio** will renew their vows in a thanksgiving Mass on Nov. 6 at Santuario de San Antonio Parish, McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati City.

Reception will follow at The Skytop, 14/F Hotel InterContinental Manila.

The wedding gown and gowns of the entourage were done by **Paul Rex Mateo** of The Wedding Day in Makati.

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DE LA CRUZ-PAGTAMA

AW2C **Marjorie M. Pagtama**, PAF, daughter of **Jose and Victoria Pagtama**, will marry A1C **Dennis A. de la Cruz**, PAF, son of 2Lt. **Ernesto and Pacita de la Cruz**, on Nov. 21, at Our Lady of All Nations Parish Church, Villamor Air Base, Pasay City. Reception will follow at Bulwagang Katatagan, Villamor Air Base.

VALERIANO-AQUINO

Rose "BabyDoll" N. Aquino of Atlanta, Georgia, youngest daughter of the late Rep. **Rafael** and **Puring Aquino**, is engaged to **Francisco D. Valeriano** of New York City, son of **Emma Benitez Valeriano** and the late Col. **Napoleon Valeriano**.

Their wedding ceremony and reception will be on Nov. 19 at the Ritz-Carlton Resort and Spa in Lake Las Vegas, Nevada.

The bride's gown is by **Ralph Lauren**.

The couple will honeymoon in Mexico and will reside in the Washington, DC area.

NGKAION-SIAO

Katherine Siao, daughter of **Imelda C. Siao** and **Manuel L. Siao**, married **Jeffrey Ngkaion**, son of **Mary Elizabeth C. Ngkaion** and **James Ngkaion**, yesterday, at Santuario de San Antonio Parish, Forbes Park, Makati. Reception followed at the Isla Ballroom, Edsa Shangri-La Hotel, Mandaluyong City.

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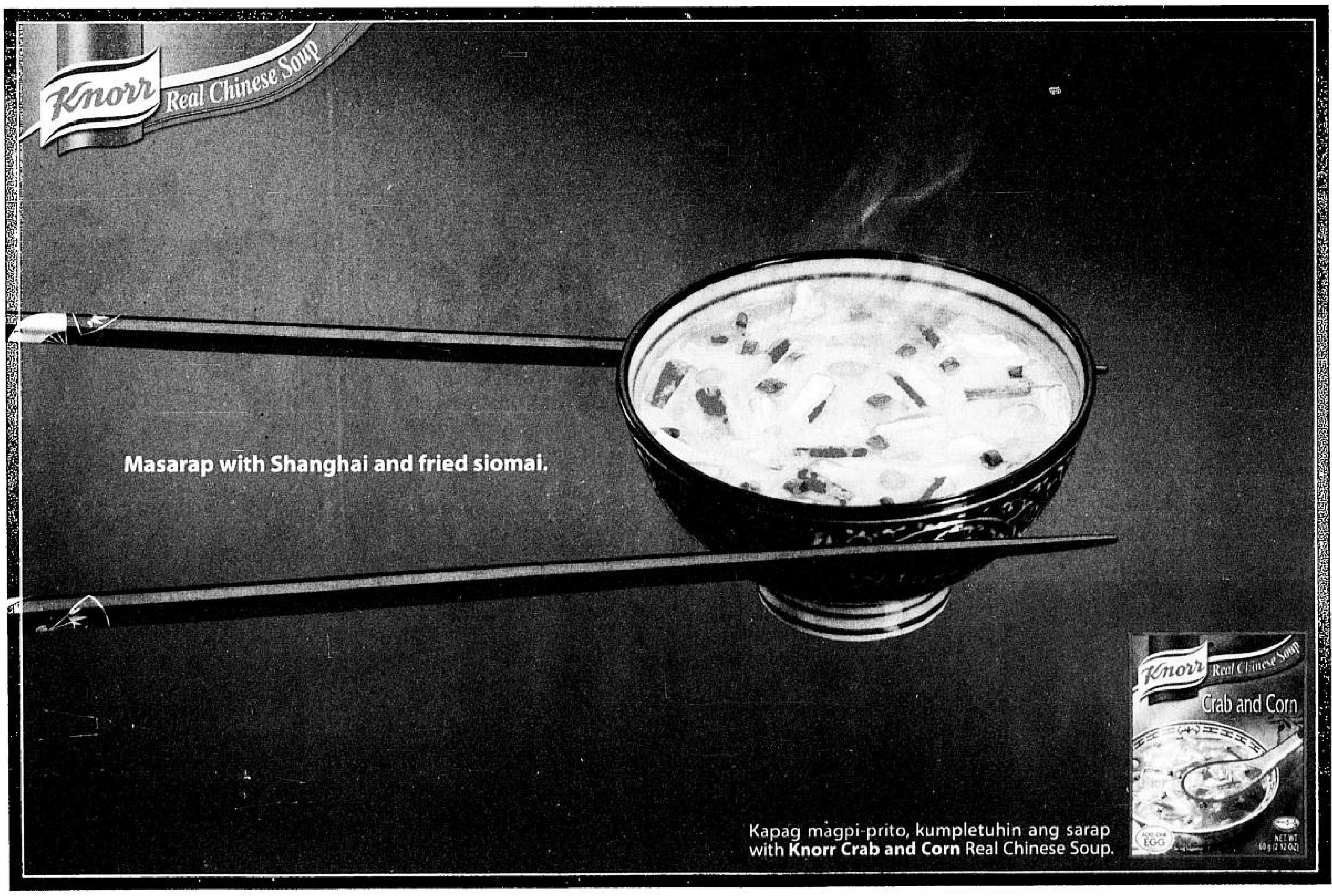
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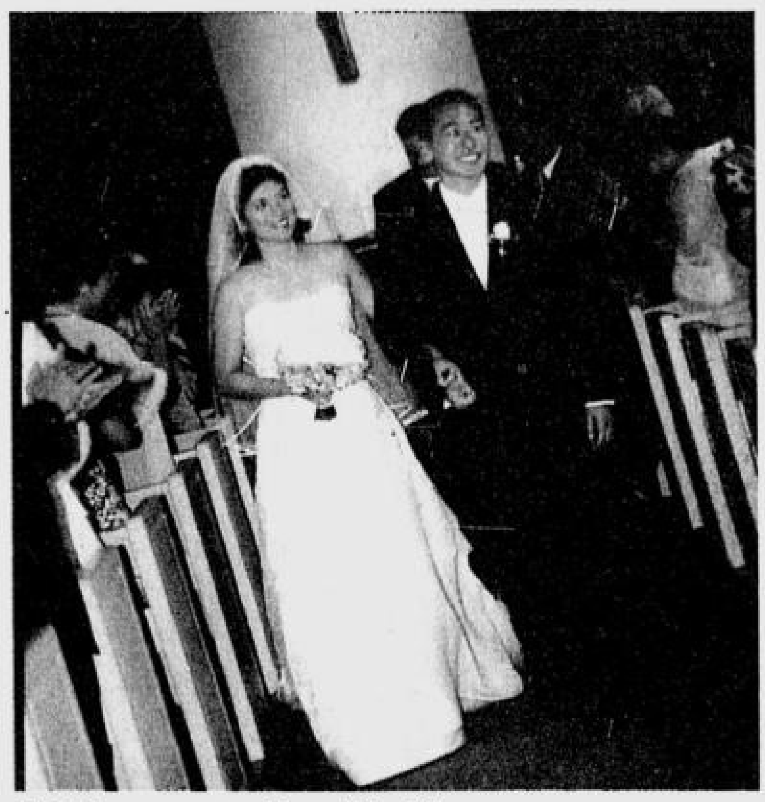
PATRICIA with her new family, the Akiyamas



FIRST few moments as Mr. and Mrs. Akiyama

LILLES-AKIYAMA NUPTIALS

A wedding of international proportions

WHEN Patricia Lilles and Tomoyoshi Akiyama exchanged vows in Vancouver, Canada, 150 people from eight different countries were there to witness the event.

Lilles, an interior designer, is from a family of builders. She is the daughter of the late Remigio M. Lilles and the former Angelita Dizon. Akiyama, a computer graphics animator for Electronic Arts, is the son of renowned symphony orchestra conductor Kazuyoshi Akiyama and his wife Keiko.

The couple met in 2001. A year later, the friendship had developed into a romantic relationship.

Fixing a date for the wedding so family and relatives living outside Vancouver can attend was not easy. The maestro, the groom's father, has his schedule fixed two years in advance. He only had three days in July free.

The wedding was held at St. Anthony's, a clapboard Catholic church atop a sloping garden in West Vancouver. Reception followed at the Capilano Golf and Country Club at the British Properties.

The bride's mother, Lita, joined her daughter in Vancouver, attending to her needs and establishing and supervising a global wedding communication network. Older sister Cindy Lilles Maceda, who is based in London, coordinated with bridesmaids Karen Kunawicz and Isabelle Ramos in Manila, and Lee Gibson in Hong Kong for the bridal shower. Her brothers Robert and Tony, along with their wives, handled wedding logistics from Manila.

The groom's mother, Keiko, and older brother Mashi coordinated with sister Makiko Akiyama Scully who lives in Palm Desert with her husband, Robert Scully, manager of an exclusive golf club. She "organized" the rest of the family in Tokyo. Best man Philippe des Arts worked via remote control from Zurich with groomsmen Brock Jackson and Steven Quinn in Vancouver.

Lilles' strapless bridal gown was made of white organza over satin and beaded sparingly. It was elegant though simple. The bridesmaids' gowns were designed and executed by Manila's Buda Gomez. The silver-gray satin strapless gowns had a silk organdy jacquard and stylized obi in acknowledgment of the groom's Japanese heritage. The bridesmaids had matching kimono-inspired opera coats.

Camille Samson of Fresh soaps in Manila provided the wedding favors—bars of *sampaguita* soap in beaded pouches of the same material as the bridesmaids' obi.

Members of both families joined the bridal march. They were led by the groom's father, who arrived from Tokyo earlier that same day. Miela Lilles, the bride's 9-year-old niece, was a picture of grace and decorum throughout the ceremony.

The bride, dazzling in her finery, entered on the arm of her oldest brother, Robert, as her groom, dashing in a tuxedo, waited at the altar.

A string quartet from the Vancouver Symphony played Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" at the end of the ceremony.

The Capilano Golf and Country Club lent an Old-World dignity to the reception. Dining tables were named after cities where guests came from. The dinner buffet was a collaboration of different chefs and the couple's mothers. The centerpiece was a wedding cake by well-known pastry chef Thomas Haas.

Among those who offered toasts to the newlyweds was the groom's brother Mashi, who was overcome with emotion as he attempted to deliver his speech. He was graciously rescued by his brother who gave him a tight hug.

Maid of honor and the bride's best friend, Karen, paid tribute to their 30-year friendship and to the bride's family, of which she has been a part.

TOMOYOSHI and Patricia Akiyama (nee Lilles)

AT the reception, tables were decorated with purple hydrangeas and named after the cities where the guests came from.

THE BRIDAL party in buoyant spirits on Dundarave Beach: Belle, Tomo, Tricia and Steven; (back row) Brock, Lee, Karen and Philippe

Guests from eight countries witnessed a Filipina and a Japanese exchange vows in Vancouver

BRIDE'S FAMILY: Robert, Cecile, Tony, Marlyn, Miela, Tomo and Tricia, mother Angelita, Cindy, Jim

PRETTY maids all in a row: Miela, Belle, Karen, Tricia and Lee

Video on how to plan your wedding

CHRISTINE Bersola-Babao

VIVA Video launches the "Plan Your Dream Wedding" video featuring Christine Bersola-Babao. Marking the release was a "wedding" luncheon for the media catered by Tamayo's at Puerta de Isabel in Intramuros, Manila. Music was provided by Johnny John Santos of JJS Entertainment.

"Plan Your Dream Wedding" is loaded with pointers and suggestions for future brides guaranteed to help ease the stress and tension that come with weddings. Watching the video and referring to it from time to time while preparing for a wedding is just like having a professional planner taking charge of every detail.

It will help brides choose the date and time for their weddings, the color motif, 60 or 600 guests, breakfast or dinner, buffet or sit-down, the gown, bouquet, ring, cake, honeymoon destination, including pointers from Christine Bersola-Babao.

Christine, host of the morning talk show "Magandang Umaga Bayan," is on hand in the video to take would-be brides through the essentials and nitty-gritty that come with the event. Tintin, who married fellow TV personality Julius Babao in last year's most celebrated wedding, also provides invaluable advice on how to cope with wedding hassles as based on her experience.

"Plan Your Dream Wedding" from Viva Video is now available on VCD for P199 and DVD for P299 in leading outlets nationwide. Viva Video is a Viva Entertainment Co. Among its latest successes are "Working Out," the latest exercise video from Jackielou Blanco, and "Touch," featuring the artistry of makeup guru Fanny Serrano.

The "Plan Your Dream Wedding" video was made possible with the help of Tamayo's, located at Puerta de Isabel II at Muralla Street corner Magallanes Drive, Intramuros, Manila, 5259772 and 5274502, fax 5274404 and e-mail address info@tamayos.com; Printsonalities for social invitations and fine stationeries, 9710 Kamagong St., San Antonio Village, Makati, 8999710/50, fax number 8999770 and e-mail address invites@printsonalities.com; Basketcase for Gifts, Triumph Building, 1610 Quezon Ave., QC, 9267785, website www.basketcase.com.ph; Pastry Bin, 69 Kitanlad, QC; Karat World, 3/L Madison Avenue, Robinsons Galleria, 6329838; Bridesmaids & Company; Rene Salud; Rhett Eala; Rajo Laurel; The Wedding Library; Flower Facade; Streetline Bridal Cars; Wings of Dreams; and the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel.

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St. Therese of the Child Jesus inspires new Carmelite nun

SISTER Marissa Therese of the Eucharist, OCD

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

IN ONE of my columns in 1988, I wrote about St. Therese of the Child Jesus which Marissa Villalobos, a 27-year-old certified public accountant, read. She had not heard of the saint before and didn't know there was a Carmelite monastery in Laoag City, although she was a native of Solsona, Ilocos Norte.

The seed of vocation was planted after she read my column, she told me after her profession of perpetual vows last Oct. 15 at the Carmelite Chapel.

Marissa searched for a convent where she could be a Carmelite postulant, then found her "home" in the monastery in Laoag. She entered in 1995 at the age of 34 and was a postulant for nine months, a novice for two years. She made her temporary vows in 1998.

On Oct. 15, feast of Sta. Teresa de Avila, she took the name Sister Marissa Therese of the Eucharist as she professed her perpetual vows, kneeling behind the grills of the cloister before Laoag Bishop Ernesto Salgado.

When the choir sang the Litany of Saints, she prostrated herself in total surrender to Her Maker and committed to a life of sacrifice and prayer as a Carmelite nun.

Sister Marissa is the second Ilocana to enter the Carmelite Monastery in Laoag (the first was Sister Pauline Datoc in 1958) and its 11th cloistered nun. There are four extern nuns for a total of 15.

Sister Antonia said the community welcomed late vocations. Interested young women can text Sister Phoebe at 0916-7481756 or Sister Luz at 0916-2509810, call (077) 7221331 or write the prioress, Mother Mary Joseph, Carmelite Monastery, P. Gomez Street, Laoag City.

WOMEN of Carmel: (front row) Gloria Pastor, Myrna Campos and Paz de la Cuesta; Mildred Ranada, Ely Santos, Sister Phoebe, Evelyn Ruiz and Evelyn Gee

Women of Carmel

I went home to Laoag for Sister Marissa's solemn profession and found out that my childhood friends had become "Women of Carmel." They hear Mass at the monastery at 6:30 every morning and join its various projects. I speak fondly of Mildred Bustamante-Ranada, Myrna de la Cuesta-Campos, Elizabeth Lazo-Santos, Evelyn Dayoan-Gee and Evelyn Raval-Ruiz.

The other members are Tessie Tiong Ablan, Gloria Pastor, Paz de la Cuesta, Gloria Caluya and Gloria Reyes.

Having been together from kindergarten to high school at the Holy Spirit Academy, I was happy that they heard Mass every day. The grace has helped them cope with motherhood and the business of running their own enterprises. Mildred runs Ranada General Hospital with her husband, Dr. Francisco Ranada Jr., and Evelyn Gee has concocted a special *pancit* canton with husband Robert in their famous La Moda restaurant along Rizal Street. Ely Lazo Santos runs a beauty parlor in Fairview, Quezon City, but goes home to Laoag to oversee the Lazo Fashion School.

It was what Fr. Paulo Gamboa, OCD, would call "experiencing God's love." Sister Marissa also felt the same when she entered the monastery at age 34.

Family moments

I had to go home to Laoag after four years to experience what my friend Maripaz Godinez called "a special irreplaceable wonder that immediate family gives." I had dinner with my Grade 5 teacher Manuela Savellano and my mother Lourdes Darang in my brother Abe's restaurant. We talked about how God had been very good to our families.

At Texicano Hotel where I stayed, my brother Joe brought coffee from his house nearby and talked to me about his job as Social Studies teacher at the Ilocos Norte High School. I was surprised to find out he could recite "Mi Ultimo Adios" in Spanish.

Going to Mass again at St. William's Cathedral (this time at the Janssen Hall) brought memories of our school days at Divine Word College where Evelyn Raval-Ruiz and I were classmates. It reminded me of our English Literature teacher Elvira Albano, who died in 1997, of cancer. It was because of her I made English my major.

My aunt, Jean Darang-Rillera, a retired court stenographer, updated me on the family. On Oct. 17 before I returned to Manila, my brother Abe and his wife Rose took us (my classmates and I) to their farm in Balacad, where we had Ilocano dishes for lunch.

We bonded with their children, Christina, Jessica, Julie Ann and Elaine. It made me grateful for our blessings.

During my short stay, my classmates and I had lunch with Tessie Tiong Ablan and her husband Nonong at their Palazzo de Laoag Hotel. It was a happy time.

Congregacion is 25

The Congregacion del Santissimo Nombre del Niño Jesus celebrated its 25th anniversary last Oct. 24. Fr. Manuel Bongayan, SVD, said Mass at the Sto. Niño Chapel on Rodriguez Avenue, QC. Leading the celebration was founding chair Ben Farrales.

For the past 25 years, the *congregación* has been holding the Sto. Niño fiesta exhibit and the grand procession on Roxas Boulevard from the Philtrade to the Luneta on the last Sunday of January.

Seminarian needs help

Fr. Richie Santos, a Salesian priest of Don Bosco, is asking for help for seminarian Edmon Medes, a third-year philosophy student at the Franciscans of St. Anthony Seminary. Bro. Edmon has not paid his board and lodging for five months amounting to P7,500. For the new semester, he has to pay P10,125 to Claret Formation House where he studies. Every month during the six-month 2004-2005 semester, he needs P1,800 for transportation and P1,500 for board and lodging. The six-month total is P19,800. If a benefactor is willing to donate the whole amount of P27,300, praised be Jesus Christ!

Text Father Richie at 0917-6677043 if you want to help. Bro. Edmon is a "late vocation," together with four others who were in Father Richie's Beatitudes Ministry in three public high schools in Pasay City in 1991. God bless you for your kindness.

Triduum for Ina ng Biglang Awa, Nov.5 at 5 p.m. and Nov. 6 and 7 at 4 p.m. at St Paul's Seminary in San Antonio Village Makati.

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SIBLING chefs /H2

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WONDERFUL couple Ed and Mila Lacson

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METRO Society cover girl Maricris Zobel and editor in chief Lia Bernardo

VIRLANIE Foundation founder Dominique Lemay with Dennis Valdes

EDIBLE names. Candy and Cheese Ledesma

Wearing my SM tiara in the presence of true royalty

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

IN the sea of invitations that cluttered my dresser, one very rare invite stood out recently because of the guest of honor named on it.

When the initials H.R.H. are written before a name, one's heartbeat quickens at the prospect of meeting true royalty. Only the heirs of European thrones can be given the title "Her Royal Highness" and these fortunate scions are the only people who can legally wear tiaras.

So what does one wear to a private fund-raising dinner for H.R.H. Princess Caroline of Hanover? Violating the royalty code of ethics, I did wear a tiara since I was not seated at her table anyway. In fact, my table was so far from the inner sanctum, the intimate circle that cocooned the princess, that I could even have brought my Royal Camp Suki guards as props and I wouldn't have been noticed. The only way I could see her up close was via the giant video screen near our table.

I wouldn't have even dared to wear a crown if the Princess was within meters of my table. Sometime ago in the colorful Marcos era, former First Lady Imelda Marcos wore a tiara to a royal gala dinner, but she was told that in Europe only true royalty wore crowns. So she wore the tiara as a hair accent in the back. I would have done the same, most probably.

Paparazzi frenzy

The invitation indicated, "Doors will be closed at 7:15 p.m." My well-suited husband Dennis and I (with my feathery white jacket from New Yorker) entered at 8:30 p.m., together with Unilever President Howard Belton. With all the photogs taking our pictures, he said he had never had so much paparazzi greeting him.

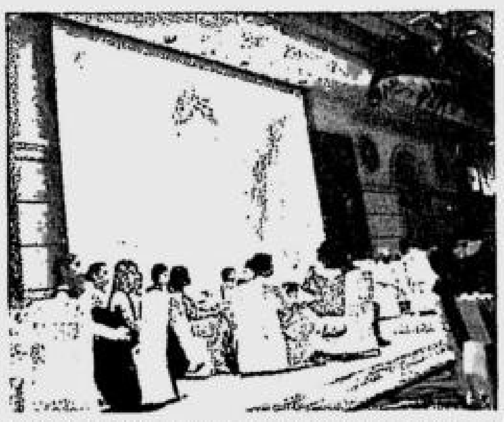
Indeed the doors were closed on the dot, but luckily we were ushered in and ended up sitting with amiable PR girl Annie Ringor, who became the smoking buddy of the Princess in between her charity visits earlier that day. Nicely enough, no photos were taken of either lady smoking. And it's a good thing Mayor Binay was not around to enforce the no-smoking rule.

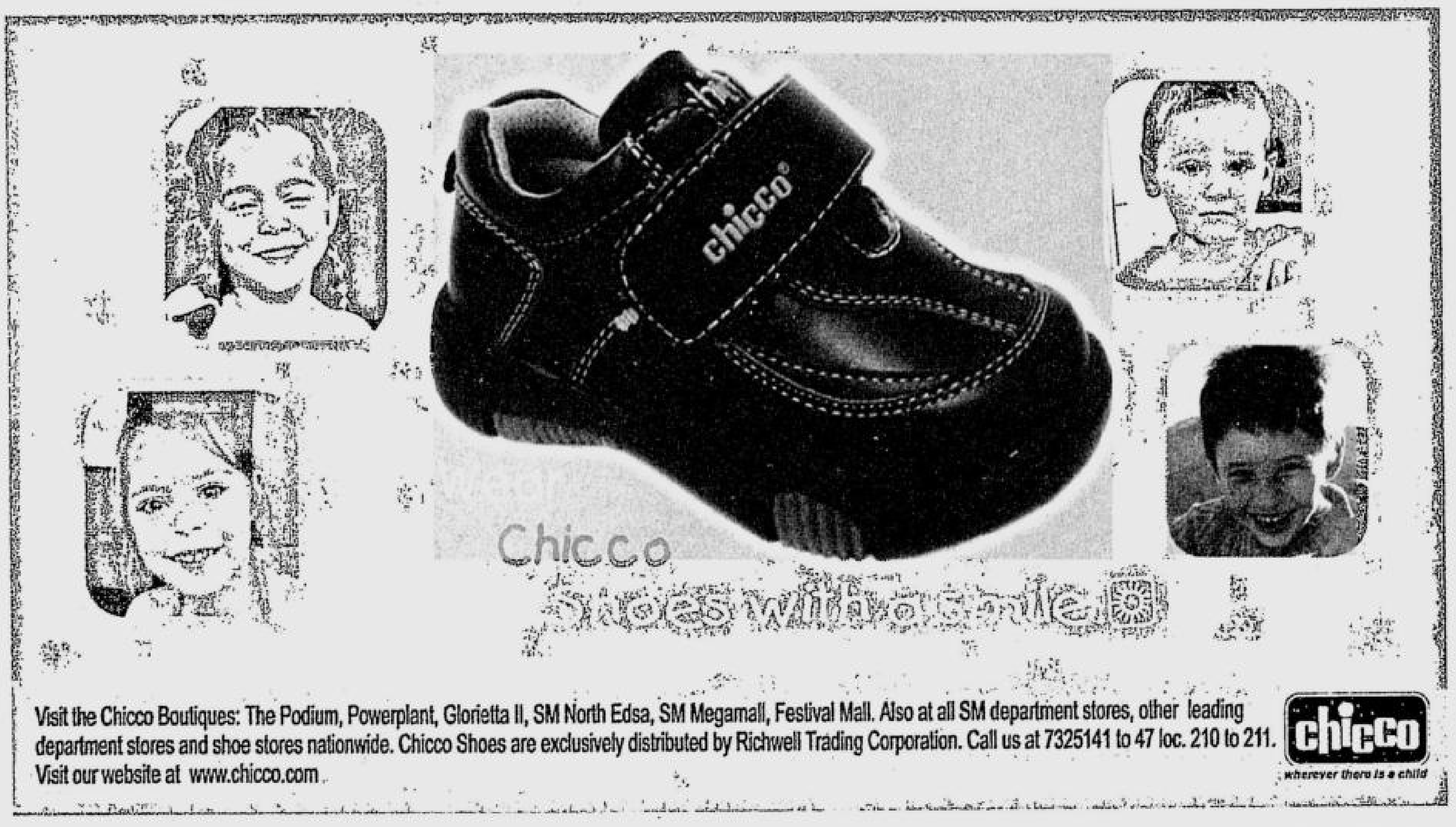
My beauty transformation team from Emphasis Salon, Victor Ortega and Danny Katalbas, made me look like the girl in "The Princess Diaries." I originally planned to wear my Hello Kitty tiara but it was returned to Gift Gate right after our commercial shoot. So I wore the tiara I bought at SM last year. The piece was inexpensive but made of very high-quality Swarovski crystals.

Inno Sotto's haute couture line did a second run in the Amade Philippines-Virlanie Foundation dinner. Inno added more suits and semi-formal wear. I think Princess Caroline must have been very impressed. I hope Inno would soon be designing for royalty. I am proud to say he made my wedding gown, one that defied all the traditional rules of wedding design.

> I violated royal protocol, but I was seated so far from Princess Caroline nobody noticed anyway

WEARING/ H4


PRINCESS Caroline on the big screen as seen from my table



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DINE first-class at home. The centerpiece, a creation of the chefs' father, is made of apples, oranges, lemons, *puso ng saging*, eggplant, carrots, red pepper, zucchini, tomatoes, string beans, lettuce.

Meet Carlos Antonio and Jose Antonio Miguel, sibling chefs and the conjoined brains behind est. Fine Dining

Brotherly banquet

Text by Anne A. Jambora
Photos by Joseph Agcaoili

FORGET the stiff, tailored suit, prudish decorum and de rigueur politesse. Two bubbly brothers/chefs from the country Down Under put the fun back in first-class dining by dressing down, so to speak, the conventional, stuffy fine-dining experience. And what better way to enjoy food, with all the trimmings and pampering of a haute cuisine restaurant, than at the privacy and comfort of your home?

It's dining experience at its finest brought right to your doorstep. The five-setting table, the lovely centerpiece, impeccable china, elegant cutlery and glassware, a private maître d' plus two excellent chefs de cuisine in the kitchen speak of an unforgettable dining adventure—especially when clients can leisurely partake of their food in comfy jeans and tees.

"Fine dining for us is nice food. It's not about being uncomfortable. It's about enjoying your meal," says Carlos Antonio Jacinto Miguel, 27, brother of Jose Antonio, 31, both chefs de cuisine of their new company, est. Fine Dining (tels. 8424673, 0927-9140294, 0916-3671239; e-mail estfinedining@zpdee.net).

Testing the waters

Born in the Philippines to a Filipina mother and a Portuguese dad, the brothers were still in grade school when the family migrated to the United States before finally settling down in Sydney, Australia. The young brothers may still be unfamiliar with local tastes and flavors, but both have collectively been cook for over 20 years in some of the best resta rants in Sydney (Banc) and London (Lind House).

Although their main goal is to put up th own world-class restaurant someday, the bro ers hope to carve a niche—and build solid c tacts and clientele—through est. Fine Dini first. "We're here to test the waters, to see h Filipinos respond to our food," says Anton.

After working for restaurateurs for most part of their careers, at one point putti in as much as 126 working hours in one w without getting so much as a thank-you bonus from the boss, the brothers decided make their mark in the culinary world coming back to their birth land.

Indeed, what better place to introduc new concept and a different style of food s vice than in the country where, both say, demand for new textures and flavors is c stantly evolving.

"Ten years ago the Filipino palate wasn't sophisticated as it is now," says Carlo.

The average Filipino, for instance, is n more knowledgeable about the nuances wine appreciation than they were, say, f years ago.

For a minimum of six people and a ma mum of 20 guests, the brothers can serve u unique, exclusive gathering that pleases criminating palates. A host can either thr an intimate party, or guests can each pay th way for a delightful lunch or dinner get- gether.

Est. Fine Dining's extensive menu select offers three- to eight-course meals for a bu get starting at P1,700 per head. Anythi lower than that, says Carlo, compromi quality. The chefs consult each client in signing the menu, such as whether progr sive or traditional dishes are favored, incl ing suggesting the best wines.

Theirs are the British and French food te niques executed to perfection, Carlo sa That means they make all their own pasta, creams, sorbets, desserts, breads, parf paté—literally every delectable piece of he en set up on the plate—from scratch.

Passion for experimentation

The brothers share a passion for exp menting with a variety of ingredients—lo and imported—to create exquisite entre That is why their recipes consist only of a of ingredients. The Miguel brothers never fer to cookbooks, relying mostly on how tastes and textures blend well with the rest the ingredients.

"We feed off each other, and we have same method of doing things," Anton says.

For this dinner, the brothers have gi duck breast a local twist by curing it for tw three hours with honey sourced from Tag tay and imported brandy to take away gamy flavor. The chestnut tartlet a creamed leeks that go with it is a distin traditional European touch. Another fusio the Pineapple and Vodka Sorbet, using no ing less than Stolichnaya to tamper the ex fruit's intrinsic sweetness.

None of the ingredients is wasted on pretext of jazzing up the food presentati The much-clichéd carrots-and-corns won't just because a dish needs something on side. Carlo believes that food must comp ment each other.

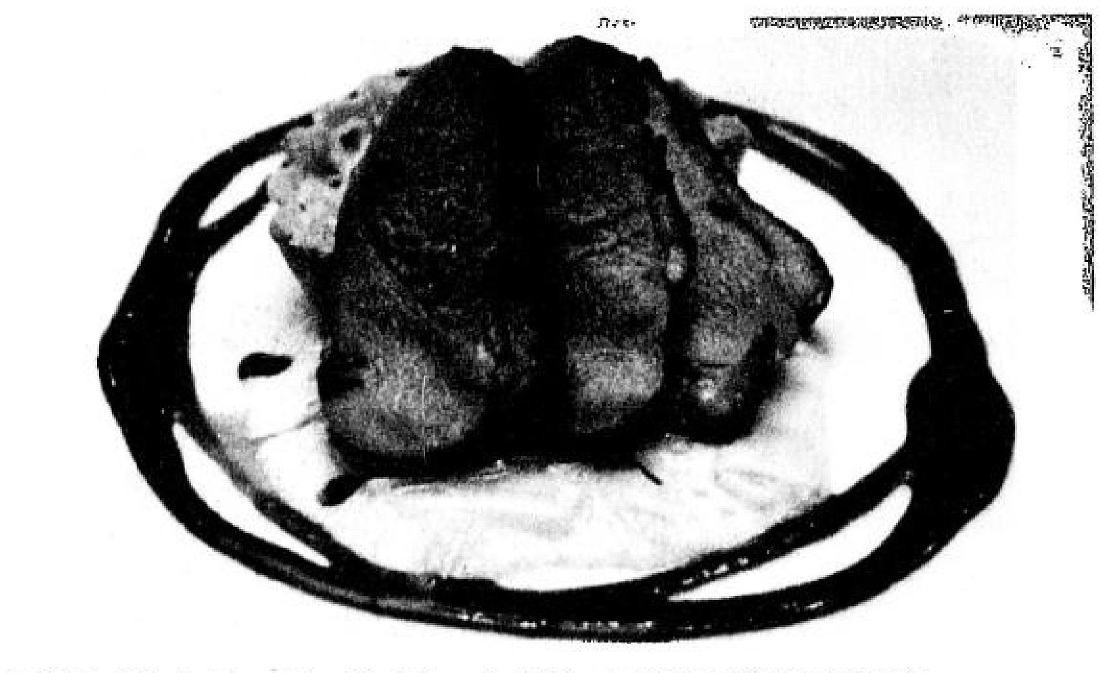
"When you create a new dish, just d

BEEF Assiette (Tournedos Rossini, Bourguignonne Pie and Consommé with Ox Tail Tortellini)

SEARED Prawn with Coconut Broth, Lime and Coriander

ROASTED Coral Trout with Cauliflower Puree and Morcilla

GORGONZOLA Cheesecake with Rocket, Pear and Truffled Honey



ILOG Maria Virgin Honey Cured Duck Breast with Chestnut Tart and Creamed Leeks

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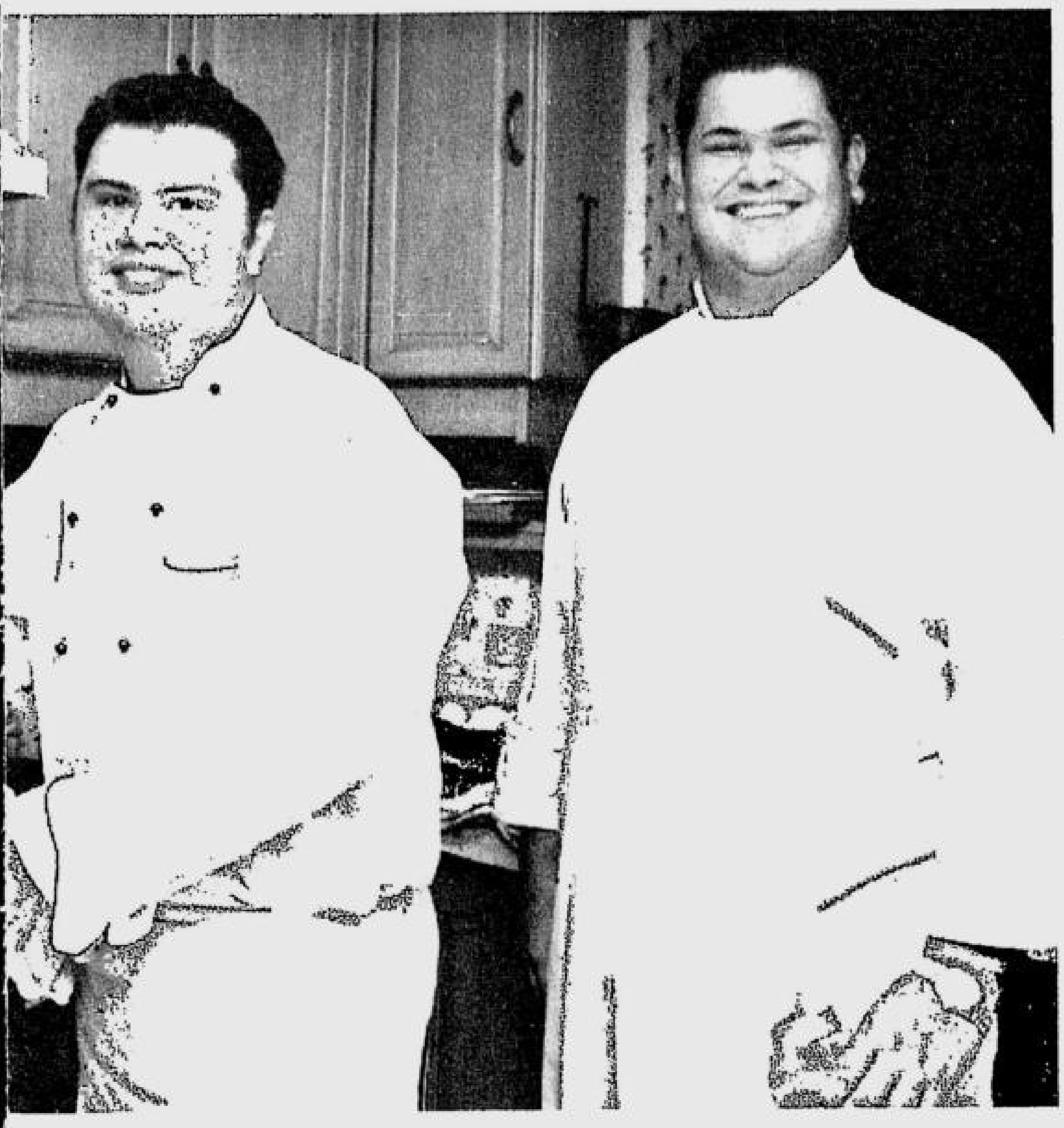


ANTON (far left) and Carlo, chefs de cuisine, redefine the fine-dining experience.

GRILLED Japanese Eel and Sautéed Foie Gras with Pickled Radish

well. This isn't brain surgery," says Anton.

A cheesecake made of the most famous of Italian bleu cheeses, the Gorgonzola, is meant as a savory dessert, not the usual sweet course associated with cakes. The intensely savory bleu cheese, in fact, is an acquired taste that this dessert is strongly recommended only for those adventurous enough.

This enthusiasm to always come up with exciting new flavors is credited to the brothers' frequent travels abroad with the family. They remember each place, in fact, by the food they ate there.

Their parents, they say, are food adventurers. "They'd say, 'we're going to eat this and if you don't like it, you're gonna go hungry,'" recalls Carlo. And so both boys learned at an early age that there's more to food than spaghetti and fried chicken.

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

The ABCs of Condominium Buying by Serendra

EFFICIENCY IS KEY AT SERENDRA

There are many reasons for people to consider having a condominium in the city. Despite the limited living space, having a place in the metro offers the convenience of having everything you need within minutes from your doorstep. But with Serendra, Ayala Land Inc. and Community Innovations Inc.'s latest and most innovative mid-rise condominium development in Bonifacio Global City, it is possible for residents to live in a condominium building and still be able to enjoy the feeling of spaciousness usually associated with homes in the suburbs. Aside from having about 65% of its 12-hectare lot area devoted to gardens and greenery, Serendra also paid particular attention to creating good spaces within the residential units.

Architect Teodoro H. Narciso of GF & Partners, the architectural firm of record of Serendra, provides an important pointer for prospective home buyers who may not know how to evaluate a floor plan or house layout. "Put furniture or have a furniture plan so that it's easier to appreciate the layout," he says.

With the furniture layout, one is able to get a better idea about the space, if it is well proportioned and therefore, more comfortable. People will be able to determine if their intended furniture will fit in their units. "Look at the doors," Narciso adds. Watch out for its proportions and how it swings to make sure that it doesn't get in the way. Consider also the location of switches and outlets. At Serendra, light switches are lower than the standard level, just about a meter from the floor, for functional and aesthetic purposes. "It does not distract if you want to hang a painting on the wall," Narciso explained.

The flow is important in considering the efficiency of a unit plan. The living and dining areas where residents entertain their guests are separated from the bedrooms by a corridor or hallway. "This provides a transition and a distinction between the public and the private space within the unit," Narciso says.

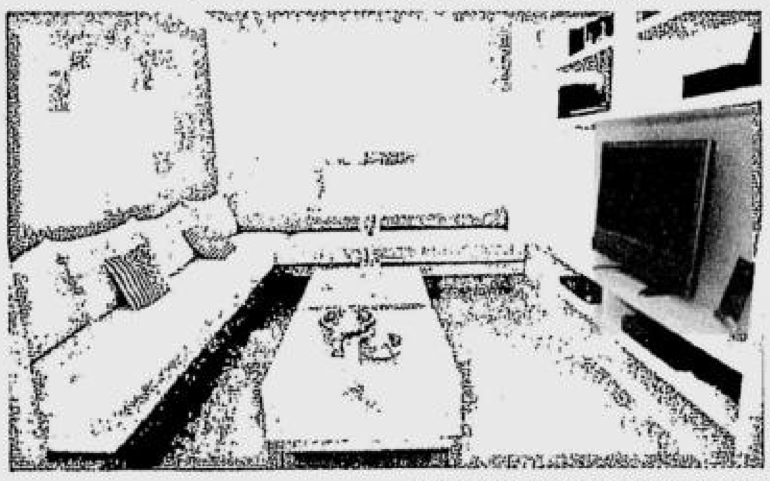
There are also areas provided in the units that encourage family interaction. In the special three-bedroom units in District 1 of Serendra, a TV or family room with a window was added. "For the smaller three-bedroom units, we created a study nook," Narciso explained. "It depends on the lifestyle of the buyer," Narciso remarked. "The condo's layout allows for flexible planning."

"We were able to decrease the area of the core," Narciso revealed, "which includes the hallway, the elevator, the fire stairs, and service areas. By shortening the hallway, you have a shorter distance to walk from the core to the door of your unit." They were also able to re-plan the end units so that you get three-bedroom wrap-around units in the prime areas facing the gardens so residents get more natural lighting and views of the greenery.

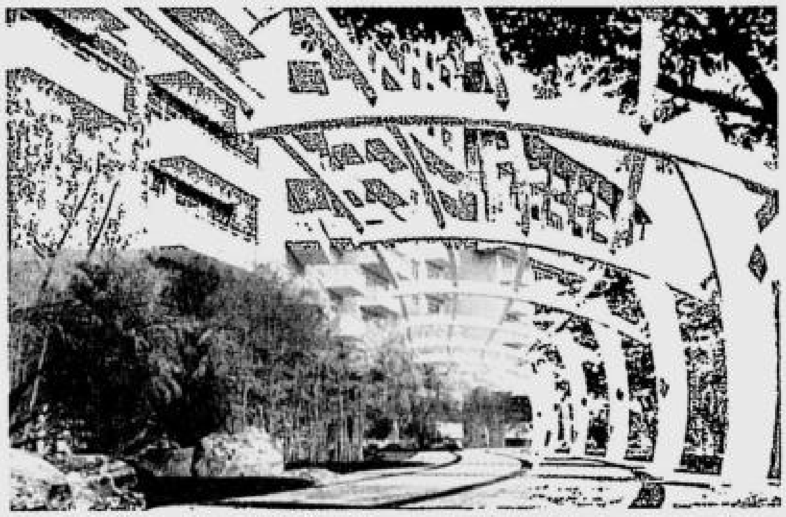
In a traditional plan, the kitchen exhaust is built vertically, the shaft of space extending from the units to the roof, with an exhaust fan that is powered by electricity. This can prove to be very expensive for the unit owners as the cost is added in the association dues. "At Serendra, we built the kitchen exhaust horizontally," Narciso explained. "There are notches at each level where the exhaust flows through natural ventilation."

Want to know more? Watch out next week for more helpful tips on condominium buying brought to you by Serendra!

For inquiries on Serendra, call 848-5000 or 849-0551, email serendra@ayalaland.com.ph, or log on to www.serendra.com.ph



The family room at Serendra



About 65% of Serendra is dedicated to gardens and landscaped walkways

ADVT.

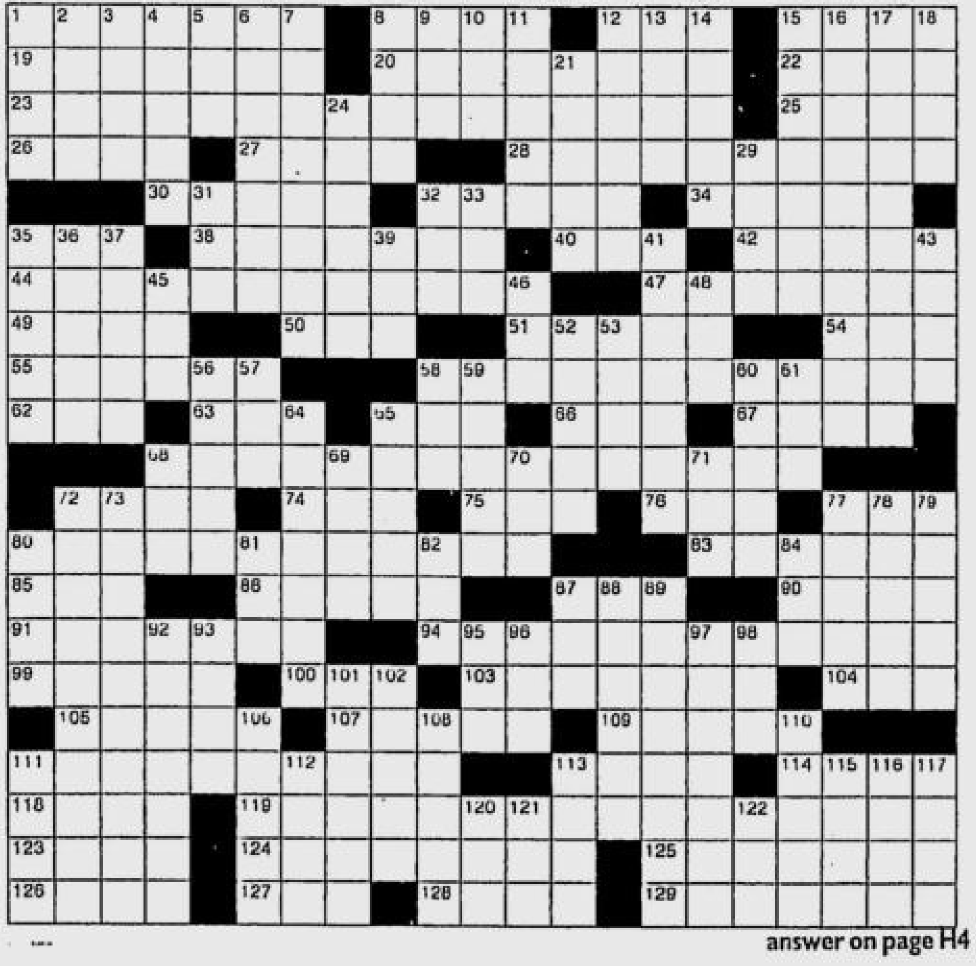
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

SEASON

ACROSS
1 Ale a serving
8 From the date
12 Snake's sound
15 Bit of sea flora
19 From Somalia, say
20 Enter, as a driveway
22 Deafening
23 1986 Gene Wilder comedy
25 Nabisco classic
26 "Don't look —!"
27 "Quit it!"
28 Display great displeasure
30 Suppress
32 Fork over the cash
34 Brewer's buy
35 Financier Onassis
38 Reached the top
40 Recipe amt.
42 Pass off as genuine
44 Dunces
47 Peace treaty
49 Kal Kan competitor
50 Failure
51 Start playing for pay
54 Limo liquid
55 Savor
58 Unjustified persecutors
62 Attempt
63 Casual shirt
65 Is required (to)
66 Uncle, in Mexico
67 Broadcasts
68 Aram Khachaturian work
72 Men-only
74 Acapulco article
75 Monet's mastery
76 Decompose
77 RV interior?
80 Attempts to induce panic
83 Beautiful maidens
85 Bewitch
86 Many a Mormon
87 Four-yr. degrees
90 Opera solo
91 Lively, to Liszt
94 Authoring for someone else
99 She may remarry
100 Spinning stat
103 Joy
104 "— whiz!"
105 Waterway
107 Very cushy class
109 Map extra
111 Red shade
113 Joule divisions
114 Juan's water
118 Whale like Willy
119 Edith Head and others
123 Film winds up on it
124 Discharge
125 "Co-star," for "actors"
126 Be brave enough
127 — Moines
128 Yemeni capital
129 How a drunk person walks

DOWN
1 Laugh sounds
2 ". . . to buy — pig"
3 Ringo Starr's instrument
4 Trig ratios
5 Halloween mo.
6 Music directors
7 One way to line things up
8 For each one
9 Great ball of fire
10 Bullring cheer
11 Airshow thriller
12 Meddlers
13 Ancient Greek porch
14 Lad
15 Standard Hawaiian tune
16 "Footloose" co-star
17 Big-name visitors on a series
18 Hooplas
21 Folder's declaration
24 Tokyo's island
29 Skillful
31 "How gross!"
32 Podded veggie
33 Total up
35 Split up
36 King, e.g.
37 Suggest
39 Newsman Koppel
41 The "p.h." of m.p.h.
43 "Touched by an Angel" angel
45 Luau bowlful
46 NYPD title
48 — -TURN (road sign)
52 Eightsome
53 Fraternity letters
56 Actor's area
57 ". . . — my brother"
58 Big battle
59 Asimov of sci-fi
60 Dapper
61 Dead heat
64 It passes through Kenya
65 Tract of wasteland
68 Disfigure
69 Donald Duck, to his nephews
70 OR staff
71 It has a charge
72 Picturesque place
73 Hired ballroom helper
77 Parsley bit
78 Your, of yore
79 Dictionary topic
80 "Pygmalion" playwright
81 Boy pharaoh
82 Gerund suffix
84 Doorstep item
87 Troop gp.
88 Apparel
89 Tries to hit
92 Carter's veep
93 "Fire —!"
95 "Yo!"
96 Suffix with plug
97 "William Tell" composer
98 Serpent tail?
101 Some colas
102 Dairy treats
106 Spiked
108 Creator of Sam-I-Am
110 Gives zest to
111 Outlet attachment
112 Pear, e.g.
113 Actress Purviance
115 Ex-Spice Girl Halliwell
116 River to the Caspian
117 "God — witness"
120 Hamm of soccer
121 Near-eternity
122 Interval



answer on page H4

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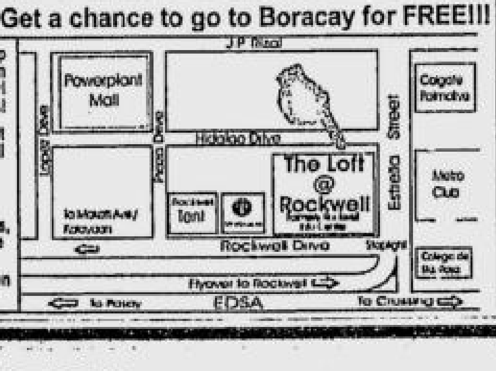

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METRO essentials. Carlo Tadiar, Thelma San Juan, Jericho Rosales, D- Boy Trofeo and Ernie Lopez

PREGGY pair. Jeena Lopez and me in a Jun Escario gown

ABS-CBN boss Gabby Lopez with Vivian Yuchengco and Monique Villonco

CLASSY ladies. Bea Zobel Jr., Melissa Martel, Patsy Zobel and Margie Moran-Floirendo

EDITOR-at-large Philip Cu-Unjieng and Cory Quirino

HSBC CEO Warner Manning and lovely wife Julie

RAUL Manzano and Mia Borromeo with Andrew Gan

Wearing my SM tiara in the presence of true royalty

From page H1

The most feminine, flowing evening gowns in a riot of colors were on parade. The models were all beautifully made up by master stylist Patrick Rosas, who was also privileged to do Princess Caroline's makeup. In striking contrast were the elaborate jewelry accents and feather hairpieces which all had my name on them.

The gowns of Inno also graced the cover of the Philippine Tatler. Gym-buff editor Anton San Diego is busy these days preparing for the magazine's big Gala Ball next month. He is also more focused and excited with work because of some new competition that recently entered the market.

New society rag

This month was the launch party of the newest society magazine with an astounding editorial team, Metro Society. Though the venue at the Luna Building, Rockwell, was too tight for the numerous "Who's Who" guests, it turned out to be quite intimate, as ABS-CBN Publishing's president, Ernie Lopez, used the occasion to announce that his sporty wife Jeena was pregnant. It must be the right planetary position for baby-making this year!

The most colorful spread in Metro Society is the article by Ipe Cruz on the closet showdown between INQUIRER Super's Tim Yap and me. The verdict? That's for you to find out when you pick up your copy of Metro Society.

In spite of escalating prices for printing and paper, there seems no end to the emergence of new magazines. Now that Dennis' Print Town can produce glossy magazines more economically, many have opted to print locally instead of abroad. But it is still surprising to see so many specialized titles, like The Practice (which focuses on lawyers) or Blackbook (for the modeling world) or Icon (for those happily gay).

One new large magazine format called MNL (Manila Night Life) got me to be their cover girl this month. This ultimate guide to the city's lifestyle and culture is perfect for visiting tourists and *balikbayans.*

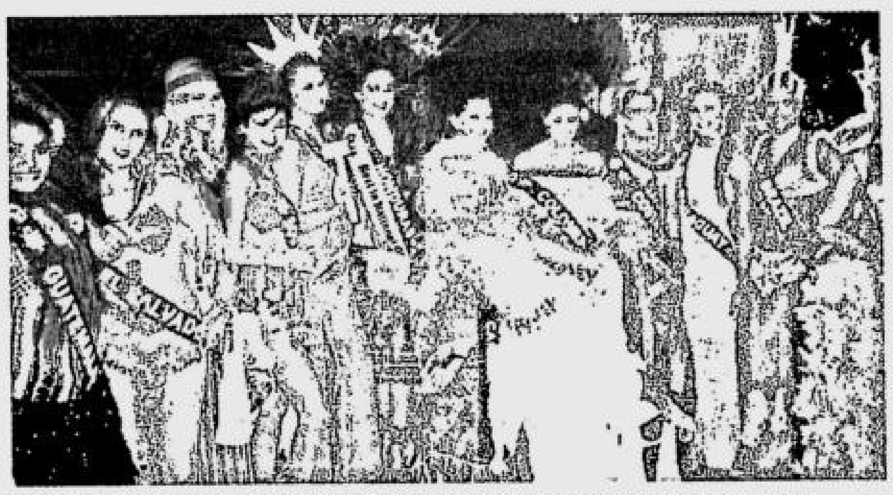
Last Friday was the launch of Appetite, a new food magazine with Lorraine Belmonte of Mega Magazines as editor in chief. Well, to be honest, the main reason I noticed the invitation was that it came in a custom package with delicious cookies from Sugarhouse. In my current preggy state, anything edible is a priority.

And two weeks ago, the Miss Earth participants had a Costume Parade Day at the InterContinental Hotel. I was able to get so many ideas for Halloween! But when I saw their flat bellies and towering heights, I had to rethink my final costume outfit.

For Halloween, I want to be a princess with a real crown, and if I can be a helping hand to the less fortunate, I will be Mother Teresa in a crown. But with the way I am eating, I might as well be the Marshmallow Man. Happy Halloween!

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph

STYLISH beauties. Melissa Aboitiz Elizalde and Josephine Knox



MISS EARTH beauties with Miss Honduras (sixth from left) winning Best in National Costume at the InterContinental Hotel

SCHOOL friends. Crickette Tantoco and Maricris Alvarez

BEDAZZLING Mely Hechanova and Reena Angeles

STANDING ovation for fashion genius Inno Sotto

HIP couple Eric and Cinthy Recto

ISM perfume creator Stephane Berthier and son Francois, with Lior and Mai Mai Leichenstein in the middle

CLOSE family. Mary Rufino and Marot Moreno

PRETTY sisters. Lizette Cojuangco and Monique Banzon

INNO muses. Margarita Fores, Sam Eduque and Gina Roxas

GENEROUS ladies Marietta Santos, Ising Vasquez and Baby Cruz

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

H	A	D	S	O	M	E	■	A	S	O	F	■	S	S	S	■	A	L	G	A
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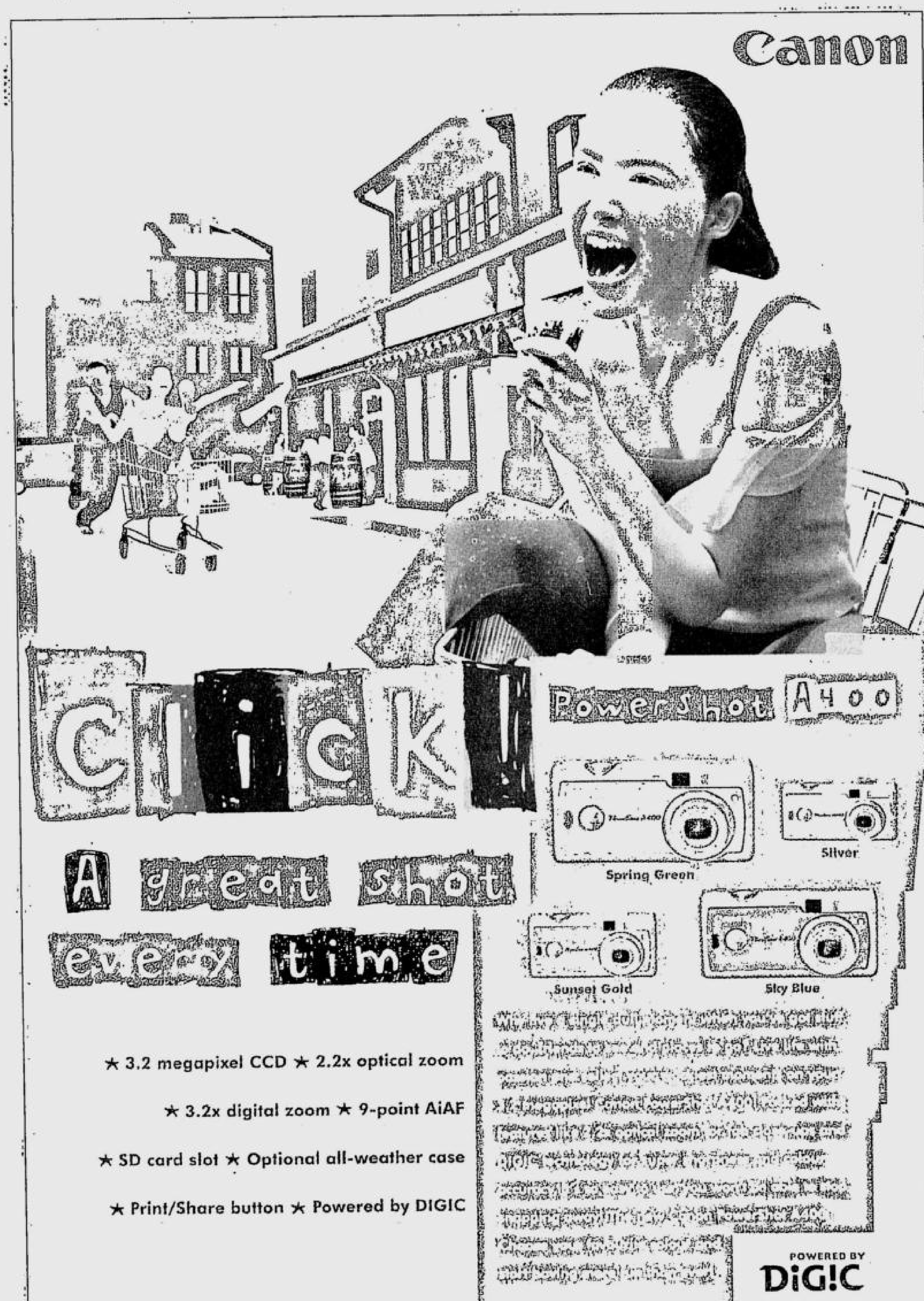

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Missing my man

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

By Arlene Aran Amarante
Contributor

He smiled like an angel. Not with his lips but with his big brown eyes that lit up each time he spoke.

He could make you swoon with words that were never elaborate or flowery. He breathed life into a conversation, not because he had a lot to say but simply because he was himself. And he always left an impression without trying to.

I had a string of suitors and two boyfriends before Don, but it was only with him that I felt something different the moment we met. Across a crowded room and with 40 heads between us, our eyes caught and a connection was made. He did not dash across the room to introduce himself. He merely smiled at me with his eyes.

Don was with someone then. I, too, was attached. It would take months before Don and I would go out, finally free from any attachments. A co-manager asked us both to be godparents. He asked for my number after the reception, but I failed to give it. I had just moved to a new place that did not have a phone. He simply thought I did not want to give my number.

The next date was made on a basketball bet we made. Loser treats, winner chooses the place. To this day, I am certain we both did not care who won the basketball game. I remember Don teased me about how good Jaworski was, and I cringed each time because I did not like Toyota at all.

Don was athletic, full of life. He had been a swimmer since age 7. His parents did not spend a cent for his education because of athletic scholarships he had in various schools. He excelled in martial arts, water polo, scuba diving, golf, target shooting. The funny thing was, he sucked at the sport I played so well.

I guess that was the good thing about us. We were opposites, yet we had so much fun together. We enjoyed being clumsy and awkward and we savored our being young and immature. Oh, we had boring talks, too. I remember I actually dozed off one time while talking to him on the phone. Realizing this, he did not hang up but slept with me at the other end.

Don would one day insist to pick me up from Batangas where I had a store opening. He was particularly insistent that time, which was not like him at all. I sensed he was trying to tell me something. I thought he was about to break up with me!

He suddenly stopped his car in the middle of the Muntinlupa flyover and proposed to me right then and there. Amid the speeding cars and noisy street hawkers, I said "yes!" That was when life became sweeter for us.

Wonderful surprises

Our marriage was filled with out-of-town trips and wonderful surprises. The most memorable was a birthday I had when I told him I could not spend it with him and our son because I had a planning session in Manila Hotel. He was very disappointed. I checked in and asked him to help me get settled in my hotel room. It was when he was about to leave that I told him there was really no planning session, and that I actually booked the hotel for us. He was surprised to see my bag with his clothes and personal stuff inside. I had also pre-booked dinner at the Tennessee Walker. Don would smile at those surprises like a kid who had just been given a new toy.

It has been more than six years since I lost Don. People still feel sorry when I tell them I became a widow at 28. Sometimes I feel it has been a long time, but at other times it all seems just like a week ago.

It's not so much the birthdays or Christmases missed. It's having him around in good times and bad. It's knowing he will be there when I wake up, or before I close my eyes. It's the small, sweet fights, the way he left his clothes behind à la Hansel and Gretel, his trying to beat Imelda Marcos' shoe collection and his numerous visits to mall restrooms to ease stomach pains. Mostly, it's having conversations that only he and I understood, sometimes without any need for words.

Life has never been the same without Don. His tragic death has left me and our son Alain stronger. In the back of my mind, I always think how life would have been different if Don had not been taken away from us too soon.

But I believe he has never really left us. Don had always been that way. You felt his presence because he never really tried to make his presence felt. These days, I am sustained by the memories we once had and the one living proof of our love—Alain.

The author is the country manager of Motorola Communications Phils. Inc. Her son is now 10 years old.

It has been more than six years since I lost Don. People still feel sorry when I tell them I became a widow at 28. But I believe he has never really left us

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The rituals of November

By Agnes Prieto
Contributor

ON THE FEAST of All Souls, the entire nation will light candles. From the air at twilight it is a sight to behold—seas of golden, flickering flames in memorial parks and cemeteries—our tribute to the dear departed.

The lighting of candles, offering of flowers and (for some) also food are the rituals of November. Rituals are more important than we realize—they connect our inner being to outer realities.

Final destination

I will light seven candles, a pristine white one for my mother, the soul jeweler who helped design and craft my being; a blue candle for my son Xavier, blue as the vast sky representing the generosity of spirit which we will treasure forever; a candle of deep green for my brother Bunny, to symbolize the gift of creativity, his legacy to us in his poetry and song; a magenta candle for Efren, shining especially for his children who need to feel a fatherly presence and guidance in their lives; a moss green candle for Joey, its light symbolizing healing; and two candles of turquoise—for friendship and sharing—to be lit for Chito and Marlene.

Seven candles lit among bouquets of flowers—roses and mums—for celebration and remembrance.

Bus stations will be clogged with people making their way home to provinces where their loved ones are buried, where they will also light their candles and offer their flowers. Airports will be no different, teeming with people carrying special bouquets. All roads lead to everyone's final destination—the cemetery.

Memorial parks begin to fill up with people as early as two days before the feast. Tents rise. Makeshift shades are erected. Sound systems, radios and tape decks boom out rock and jazz. Barbecue grills and other cooking implements are laid out. Plastic chairs and tables are in place. Mahjong sets, cards and other games are brought in. The accoutrements for the living, even as we remember our dead.

Afterlife

The rituals for the dead are embedded in our culture. We make way for the day of remembrance with no one needing to prod us. Our love for those who have passed on, our need to commemorate their lives, our hunger to not forget—all these explain why.

The function of ritual is to connect the inner (our soul) with the outer (daily reality). Ritual is necessary for our wholeness. Societies that respect the past know this fact. They protect and revere ritual.

> When we light candles and offer flowers, we not only honor our departed loved ones, but also ourselves

The ritual of All Souls' and All Saints' days acknowledge our acceptance of an afterlife, another dimension beyond what we can see and touch. More importantly, these rituals symbolize our recognition that there is a part of our being that does not perish when the body dies—the soul.

We use ordinary everyday things—candles and flowers and food—to express what is not material. Candles to symbolize illumination and connection, flowers for celebration and food for sustenance.

Candles have been used in rituals since fire was discovered. In the early days they broke the bondage of darkness, and daily life continued beyond sunset because now there was candlelight. When we light a candle, we connect earthly life and beyond, acknowledging the continuation between the here and now and the forever.

Forty days after death, we keep a candle lit in our home altars to guide the soul as it traverses unfamiliar regions. It is a vigil candle to mark the transition from this plane on to the next—a recognition of engagement with spiritual forces to help our departed move on.

Raucous party

Flowers are for celebration and remembrance. Filipinos, particularly, can turn anything into a festivity. Remember Edsa I when we bypassed a bloody revolution with flower offerings by nuns and little children to soldiers armed to the teeth on top of tanks?

So we turn our remembrance of the dead into one raucous party—flowers, food, music and laughter fill the air after the prayers for the dead are said. Living it up is what we do best, and the best way to honor the dead is to celebrate our lives.

There is special food cooked for the feast of the dead. In the provinces, even the poorest huts serve rice cakes of all persuasions and varieties. *Bibingka, kakanin,* cassava cake, *suman sa lihiya, puto, cutchinta, pichi-pichi*—the list is endless.

Food has a special connotation when used in ritual. One feeds the dead to symbolize that though he is gone, nurturance continues through prayers and offerings.

Lives enriched

In rituals such as these, our lives are enriched and enhanced as we establish that we are more than material beings with lives limited to an earthly existence.

Thomas Moore, in "Care of the Soul," points out a malaise of modern times which he calls "Psychological Modernism." More and more, he says, we are held in thrall by technology, gadgetry and automation. In the name of progress, many cultures are letting go of their connection to the spirit, giving up on ritual simply because there are no tangible, material results which can be validated by science.

This eventually starves the soul and results in psychosis, even neurosis. A manifestation of this is compulsive ritual—we find ourselves eating "junk food" again and again to satisfy that inner craving for something which we cannot quite pinpoint. Or an indulgence in "spirits" (alcohol) to provide that needed uplift. Or a shopping spree to ward off the doldrums. Or a swift spin in a gleaming new car, only to find that after the high comes the devastating emptiness.

When we light those candles and offer those flowers, we must remember that we not only honor our dearly departed loved ones but also ourselves, in the richness of our present.

Magical Halloween

ENCHANTED Kingdom will be open 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Nov. 1, All Saints' Day, and 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Nov. 2, All Souls' Day.

Enjoy the park's various treats, while enjoying the thrilling rides. Catch the last two days of the "Magic Combo Treat," which bundles the Enchanted Kingdom Day Pass with a full meal at the park.

Enjoy the "FUNtasmic Halloween" today, starting with a Trick or Treat Costume Parade at 4 p.m. that will give kids a chance to win lots of prizes. At 7 p.m., it will be magical with "The Transformers," featuring Los Angeles-based magicians Jeff Simon and Tom Silver.

Enchanted Kingdom will also be open 10 a.m.-10 p.m. on Nov. 15.

The theme park is at the newly created component City of Sta. Rosa, Laguna, about 30 km south of Makati.

Visit Enchanted Kingdom Inc. at G/F Tropical Palms Condominium, 103 De la Rosa St., Legazpi Village, Makati City, or call 8302111/17 in Sta. Rosa. Tickets are available at Ticket World outlets. E-mail www.enchantedkingdom.com.ph.

Last minute Halloween treat

The Linden Suites offers an Executive Room rate at P2,000 net and P4,000 in a two-bedroom suite until Nov. 7. Call 6387878 or visit www.lindensuites.com

SPICE your Halloween up with the latest collections from Oshkosh—Cool cotton dresses, denim outfits, shortsets, comfy tees and pants accented by accessories like backpacks, hats, belts and shoes. Check them out at all Cinderella and other leading department stores.

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Complete your Halloween gear with scary Halloween masks and outfits from Filstar Distributors Corp., licensee of Hallmark Cards Inc. From gags and adornments to plastic pumpkins and brooms, Filstar makes sure you have fun this Halloween instead of having to work hard in creating an authentic costume. Halloween products are available at all National Book Store outlets nationwide.

Halloween treats for kids

Manila Pavilion Hotel presents "Halloween... Kid's Day-Out Trick or Treat."

Kids can don a scary costume or can come as their favorite superhero or cartoon character. The most creatively dressed will win "Best in Costume." Awaiting three winners are prizes from Scan-Asia Overseas Inc.

Kids can also join games and other fun activities. The kid that is most active, friendly and adorable will win "Kid of the Day" with prizes.

"Halloween... Kid's Day-Out Trick or Treat" is open to kids 12 years old and below and dining at Café Coquilla on Oct. 31, from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Buffet prices are P350 for kids and P700 for adults.

Call 5261212 local 2318.

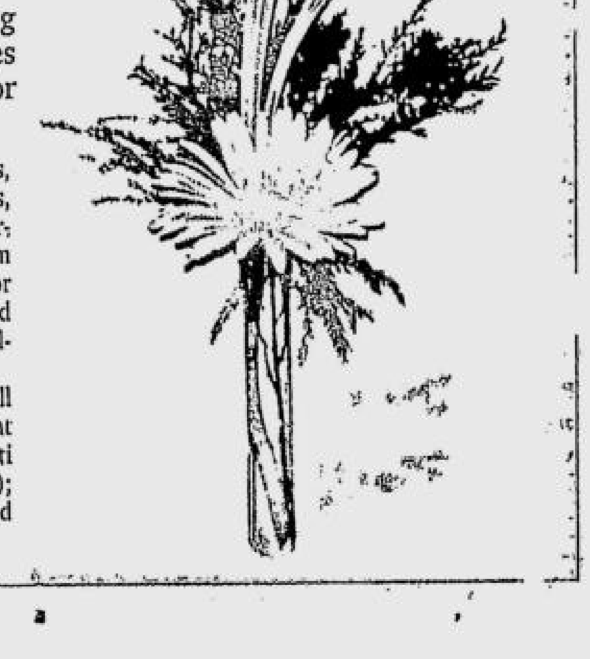
GO solemn and traditional this All Saints' Day. The 99 Store offers candles of different shapes and colors, sizes and scents for only P99. The 99 Store has 26 branches.

Remembering loved ones

ELEGANT floral arrangements that bring warm and beautiful memories of loved ones are presented by The Flower Farm Corp. for this year's Feast of All Souls.

A variety of flowers from delicate lisianthus, brightly colored chrysanthemums and gerberas, to stunning roses and lilies are expertly arranged by the floral artists of The Flower Farm into sprays or potted arrangements, either for flat or raised surfaces. Special single-stemmed creations for tombstones are also available.

Orders are already being accepted by all of The Flower Farm's branches, located at Thailand Street (formerly Rada Street), Makati (8156667); Alabang Town Center (8094609); Madison Square Greenhills (7227122); and Glorietta 4 (7527206).



THE SUN Cellular team at the 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited Blowout Party: Sun Cellular CEO and business unit head Charles Lim (second from right) with Sun Cellular officers Peachy Bautista, Ardie Balderrama, Dino Francisco, Joan Dueñas, Tess Pascual, Finnie Bonifacio, Grace Rodillas and Mitch San Juan

Smashing party for phone junkies

SUN Cellular recently treated its subscribers to a Friday evening bash called "The 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited Blowout Party" at the Eastwood City Walk Central Plaza in Libis, Quezon City.

The revelry was a toast to the success of the 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited service rolled out by the network last Oct. 1. This service, exclusive to Sun Cellular subscribers, offers the convenience and freedom to make voice calls and send messages to fellow Sun subscribers without the huge costs.

The highlight of the event was a concert frontlined by Rivermaya, South Border, Jimmy Bondoc and Intense. The event was hosted by DJs from Jam 88.3, Wave 89.1, K-lite 103.5, 99.5 RT and Magic 89.9.

Various games and raffle draws gave away fabulous prizes, including Sun Cellular Sureload phonekits, 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited SIM Packs and Call cards and Sun Cellular merchandise.

Sun Cellular's stronger network facilities guarantee reliable connection and network quality for its subscribers. Visit www.suncellular.com.ph or call its 24-hour hotline number at 3958000.

RIVERMAYA'S Rico Blanco

BAZAAR committee: Mel Reyes, Fely Umandap, Zonta area director Baby Perez-Sison, VP Nida Lopez, president Menchu Pascual, Evelyn Duran, Tonie Lingad and Baby de Jesus

One-day international bazaar on Nov. 7

THE 6TH Zonta Manila I International Bazaar will be held 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Nov. 7 at the Hotel InterContinental Grand ballroom, Bel-Air and Forbes rooms.

Organized by the bazaar committee of the Zonta Club of Manila I, the bazaar will feature around 130 concessionaires selling local and imported goods. Merchandise will include antiques, books, beauty products, jewelry, décor, ceramics, clothing, accessories, handicrafts, hardware, linens, toys and foodstuff. This year's special features are dishes and delicacies from various countries from the Asian Development Bank Spouses' Association.

Proceeds from the bazaar will fund Zonta Manila I's various service projects in education and values formation, health, poverty reduction, legislative awareness and advocacy and the Z clubs. Education projects include scholarship programs for 50 students, and nutrition and health kiddie classes for 172 children. Health projects include medical and dental missions, sight saving and vision screening, and management of HIV/AIDS.

Zonta also undertakes livelihood skills development such as reflexology, cosmetology, food service, tailoring and micro-entrepreneurship development.

It lobbies for bills protecting the rights of women and children and supports young women through the Z club.

Under the leadership of club president Menchu Pascual, the bazaar committee consists of Zonta Area I director Baby Perez-Sison and vice president Nida Lopez. Other members of the organizing committee are past president Gina Geraldez, Evelyn Duran, Tonie Lingad, Mel Reyes, Fely Umandap, Letty Calma, Judy Bacosa, Sol Dizon, Julie Jalbuena and Baby de Jesus.

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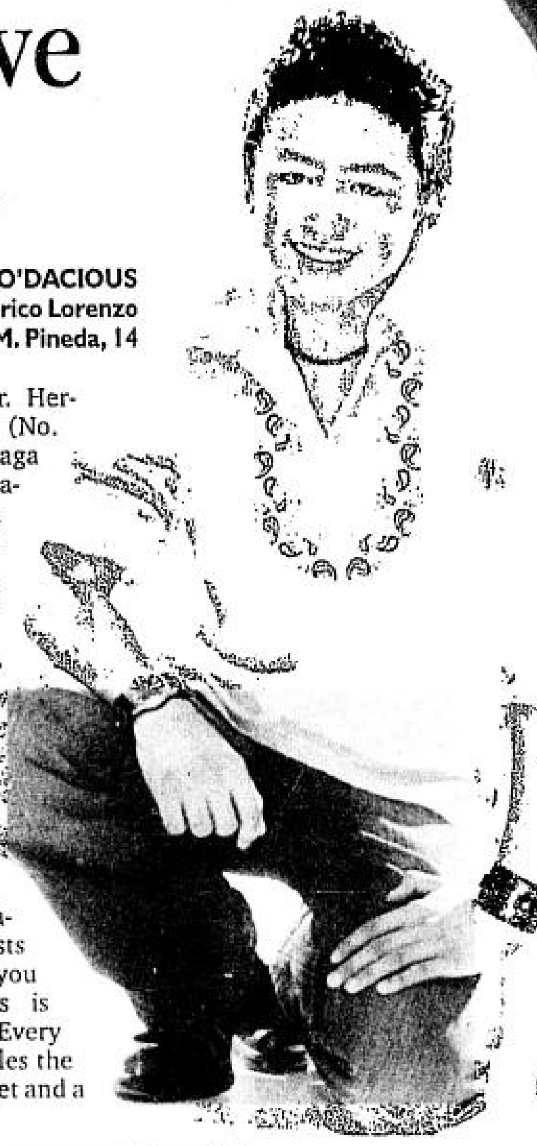
MAMA Bongga finalist Ma. Danette N. Sayo, 30

COOL Kiddo finalist Hermond Vincent T. Alvarez, 9

SASSY Sis finalist Carleslie Louise Cranley Amponin, 19

DADDY Groovy finalist Cesar Herbosa, 32

Vote for your fave fashionista family



BRO'DACIOUS finalist Enrico Lorenzo M. Pineda, 14

SHOPWISE has announced the finalists for its Familya Fashionista 2004 competition.

The hottest picks for the "Daddy Groovy" category are Cesar L. Herbosa (No. 1), Joness R. Pagalilauan (No. 2), Davidson O. Caro (No. 3) and Jay P. de la Cruz (No. 4).

These debonair dads complement the grace and elegance of "Mama Bongga" finalists Ma. Danette N. Sayo (No. 1), Mona Liza S. Te (No. 2), Mariquita O. Pilapil (No. 3), Raquel Jataas (No. 4) and Marites D. Canete (No. 5).

Carleslie Louise Cranley E. Amponin (No. 1), Sherylou Grace N. Gardner (No. 2), Jennifer E. Manabat (No. 3), Rey-Anne Marie C. Barrion (No. 4) and Lindsey Michelle C. Bolivar (No. 5) are in for the "Sassy Sis" category.

The Bro'Dacious finalists are Enrico Lorenzo M. Pineda (No. 1), Ronnie C. Esteban (No. 2), Edison V. Guevarra Jr. (No. 3), Van Kristoffer M. Bacolod (No. 4) and Edward Jefferson M. Abaloz (No. 5).

The refreshingly trendy youngsters are not to be outdone either. Hermond Vincent T. Alvarez (No. 1), Shairmane A. Gonzaga (No. 2), Valentine A. Gonzaga (No. 3), May Vivien Michelle DC. Babilonia (No. 4) and Genevieve A. Ilao (No. 5) made it to the "Cool Kiddo" category.

The finalist who receives the most votes in his/her category will receive a P50,000 cash prize and a one-year modeling contract with Shopwise.

Customers can still cast their votes for their favorite Fashionista finalists until today. Every peso you spend on fashion items is equivalent to one vote. Every 100 registered votes entitles the customer to one raffle ticket and a chance to become one of five lucky home partners who will each bring home P10,000 cash tax-free.

Meanwhile, Shopwise also presents "Tricks and Treats Halloween Costume Contest." To join, register at any Shopwise branch and select the category that you want to participate in. There are three categories to choose from: Fantasy, Cartoon and Horror. Applicants can only participate in their respective Shopwise registration. Registration is until today. Wear your favorite Halloween costumes to win.

Shopwise has branches at Alabang (G/F Festival Mall, Filinvest), Makati (corner Pasong Tamo and Vito Cruz Extension), Libis (E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue) and Araneta (Araneta Center, Cubao, QC). Open from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily.

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KARTING champion Swatcher Matteo Guidicelli with the Lego Ferrari F1 model car of his idol Michael Schumacher.

SWATCH Bunnysutra winners Anton San Diego, Melnita Guiao, Cleo de la Fuente, Rachel Alejandro, Anna Lyn Lumelay, Analyn Samson and Cecilia Tomista with Gift Gate leading light Virgie Ramos (second from left).

Winning all the way through Christmas

SISLEY bag collection winner Monica Uy promises to give one of the bags to her daughter.

WHEN Melnita Guiao bought a Flik Flak watch for her grandson at the Gift Gate store in Harrison Plaza, she got 50 raffle coupons, one of which was the lucky coupon that won her a Bunnysutra Swatch watch.

Since Gift Gate launched its "12 Weeks to Christmas" promo in early October, there have been 11 winners of the Swatch Bunnysutra apart from Guiao.

Anna Lyn Lumelay usually shops at Gift Gate for gifts for the special people in her life. Sometime in October, her birthday month, she bought a Swatch Irony. With that purchase, her name was included in Gift Gate's weekly draw and she won a Swatch Bunnysutra, just like Analyn Samson, who works at Phinma Properties.

Besides the watches, 11 Gift Gate shoppers have won Seque bag collections. One of them was Erlinda "Lin" Cruz, wife of actor Tirso Cruz III. This was not the first time that Lin had won in a Gift Gate raffle. She won a mobile phone in a previous Swatch raffle.

Marian Villanueva, a big Hello Kitty fan, bought a Benetton cosmetic case from the Gift Gate store in Alabang Town Center. Her name was drawn one week and she won a Sisley bag collection.

Last week's winners of Lego Ferrari racers in Metro Manila included Henrietta de Vera, Armando Tudla Jr., Yolanda Sy, Hazel Cruz, Diana Abrera, Joahnna Villa and Valerie Andrade. The provincial winners were Apple Erla Uy (Cebu), Belinda Mabojos (Tacloban) and Danielle Desiree Ramos (Quezon).

Today, shoppers have a last chance to be one of nine winners of Russ stuffed toy collections.

Every purchase worth P300 at any Gift Gate, Swatch, Segue and Sanrio Surprises store entitles a shopper to 10 raffle coupons at Gift Gate during its "12 Weeks to Christmas" promo.

The prizes for the remaining weeks till Christmas include Lego Knights sets, Sanrio Desk fans, Flik Flak watches, Swatch Bijoux sets, Benetton luggage, Russ Christmas trees and Segue Minibikes. The prize for the last draw is a limited-edition Hello Kitty Vespa.

SISLEY bag winner Lin Cruz, wife of actor Tirso Cruz III.

Argentina Corned Beef Junior 150g.
Kasing sarap, sa abot-kayang halaga.
Argentina
Argentina
Laking sarap! Laking tipid! Yan ang handog ng pinaka-bunsong miyembro ng pamilya Argentina. Sa hibla, sa sarap, walang kapalit ang No. 1

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RAGNAROK

BY ROBERT WONG

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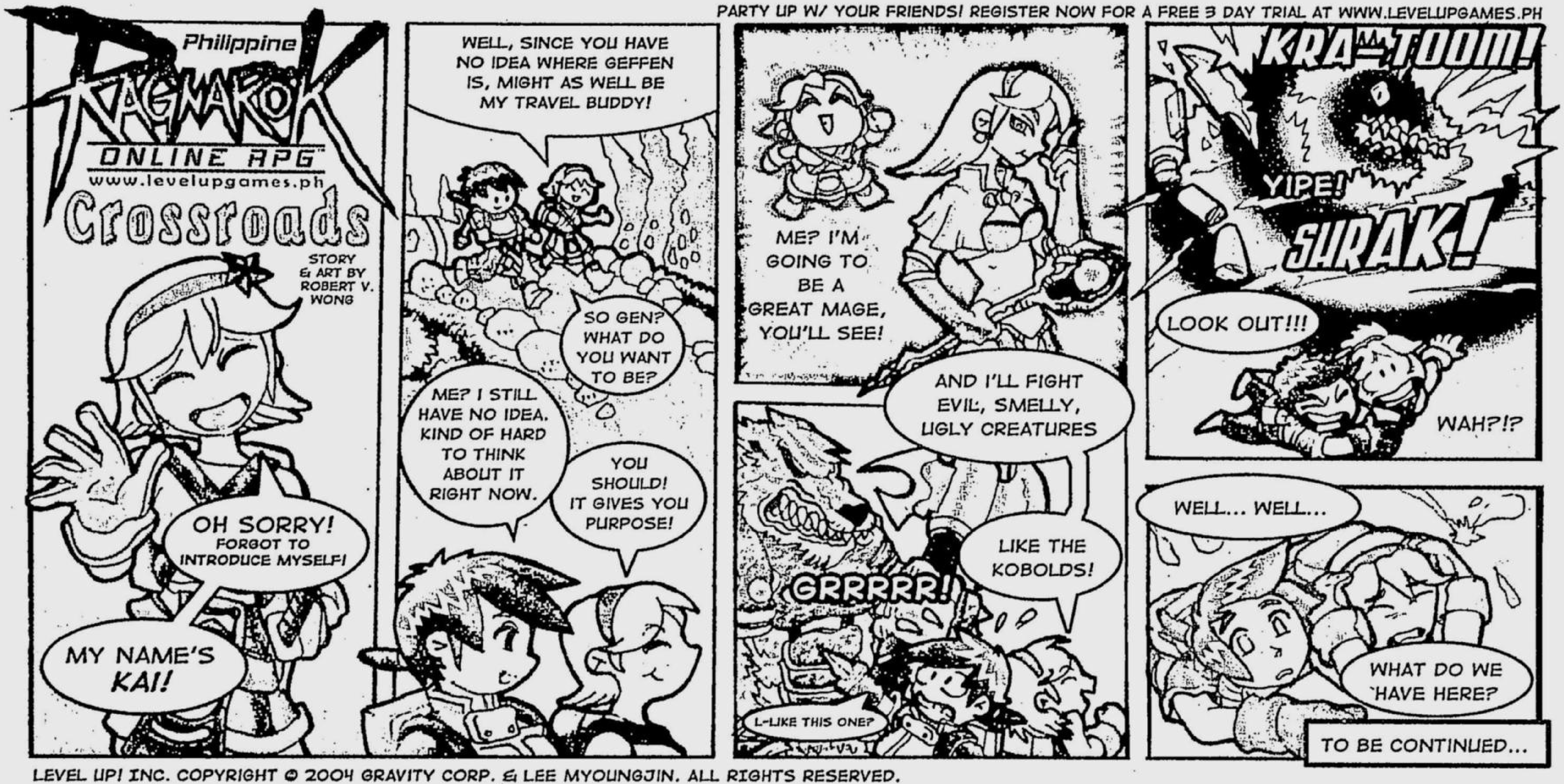
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ME? I STILL HAVE NO IDEA. KIND OF HARD TO THINK ABOUT IT RIGHT NOW.
YOU SHOULD! IT GIVES YOU PURPOSE!
ME? I'M GOING TO BE A GREAT MAGE, YOU'LL SEE!
AND I'LL FIGHT EVIL, SMELLY, UGLY CREATURES
LIKE THE KOBOLDS!
GRRRRR!
L-LIKE THIS ONE?
KRA-TOOM!
YIPE!
SURAK!
LOOK OUT!!!
WAH?!?
WELL... WELL...
WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE?
TO BE CONTINUED...

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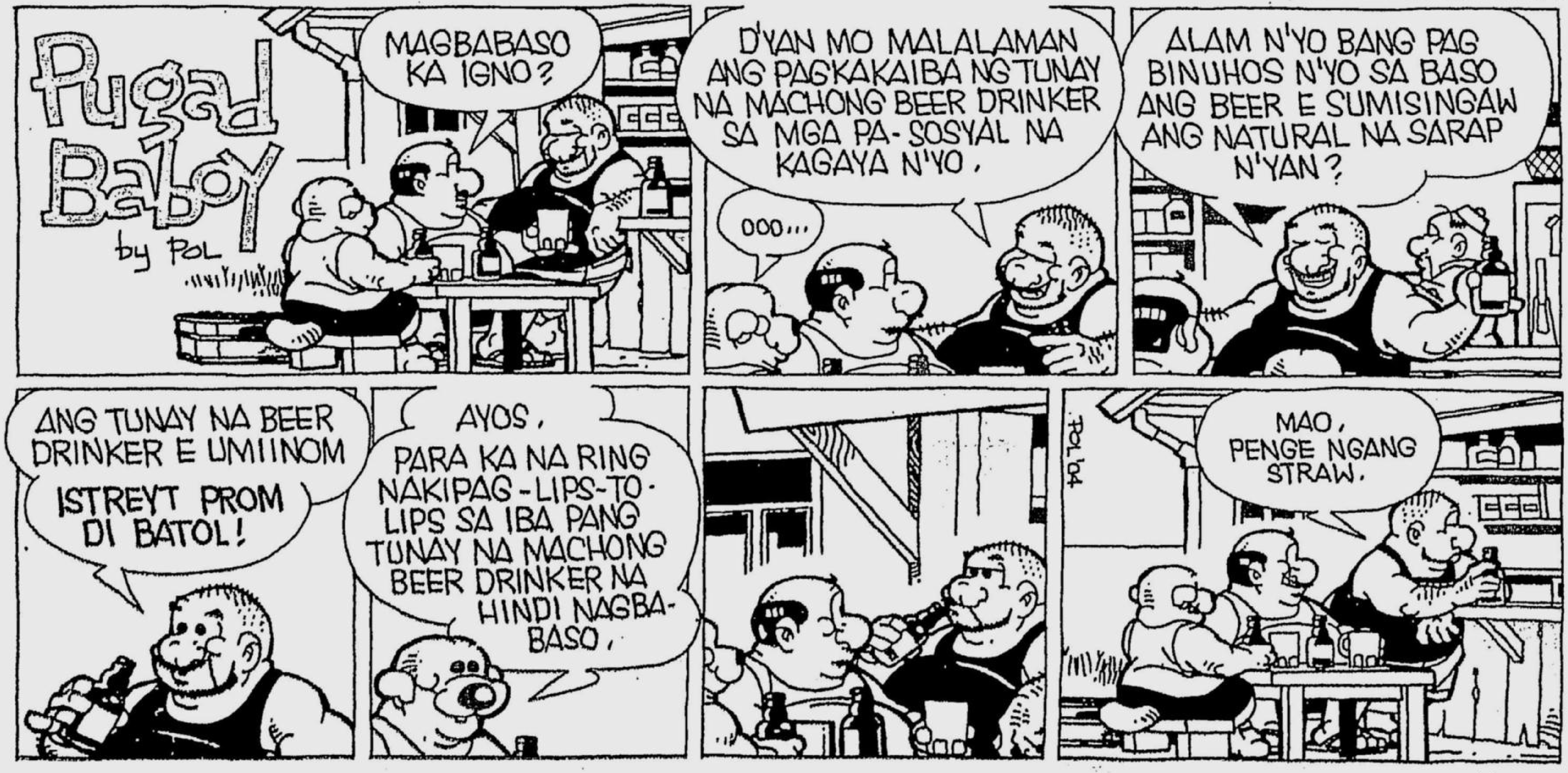
PUGAD BABOY

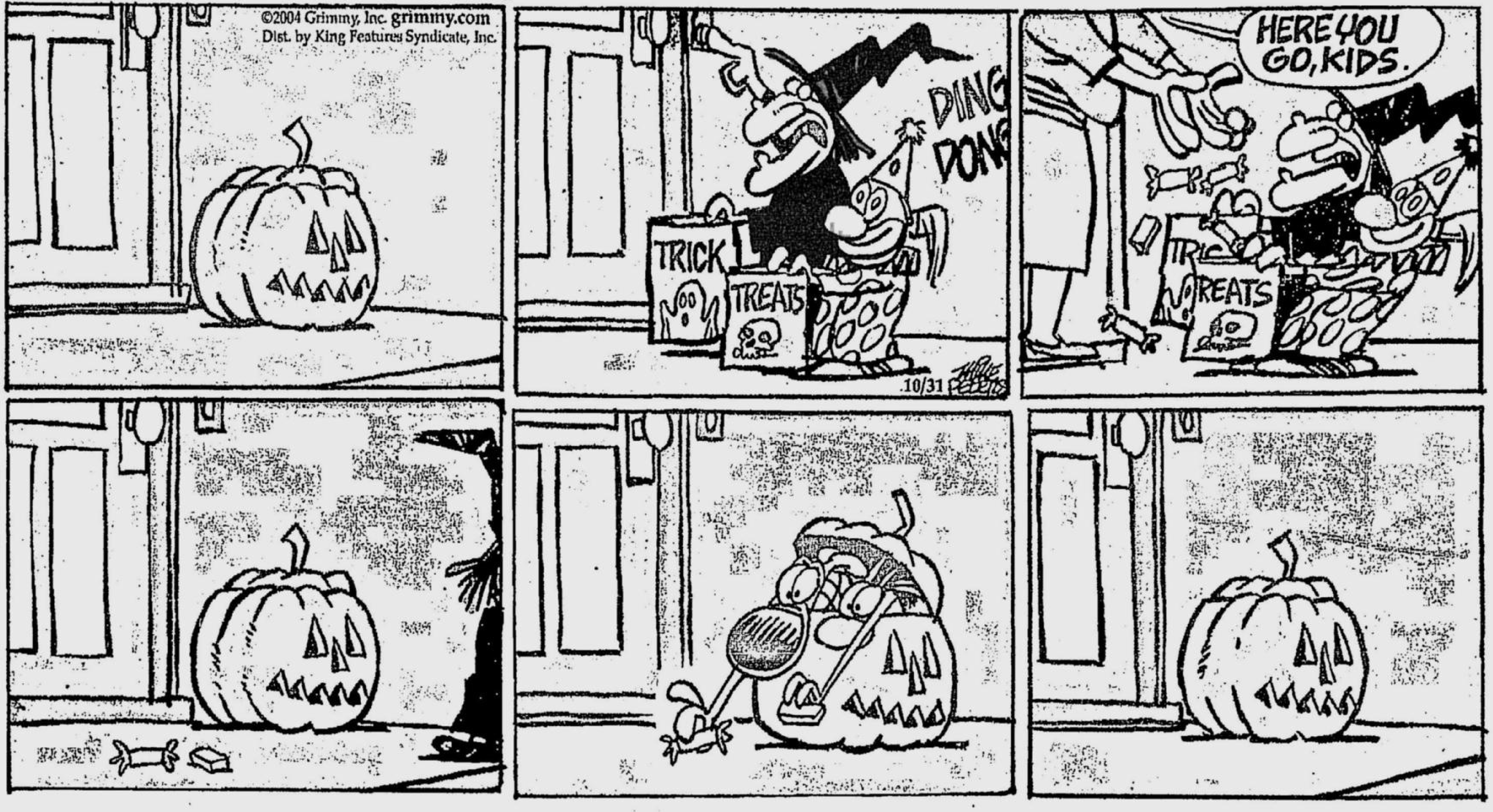
BY POL MEDINA JR.


Pugad Baboy by POL
MAGBABASO KA IGNO?
D'YAN MO MALALAMAN ANG PAGKAKAIBA NG TUNAY NA MACHONG BEER DRINKER SA MGA PA-SOSYAL NA KAGAYA N'YO.
OOO...
ALAM N'YO BANG PAG BINUHOS N'YO SA BASO ANG BEER E SUMISINGAW ANG NATURAL NA SARAP N'YAN?
ANG TUNAY NA BEER DRINKER E UMIINOM
ISTREYT PROM DI BATOL!
AYOS.
PARA KA NA RING NAKIPAG-LIPS-TO-LIPS SA IBA PANG TUNAY NA MACHONG BEER DRINKER NA HINDI NAGBA-BASO.
POL '04
MAO, PENGE NGANG STRAW.

FOLLOW THE FOLD TO GET TO MIDGARD

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS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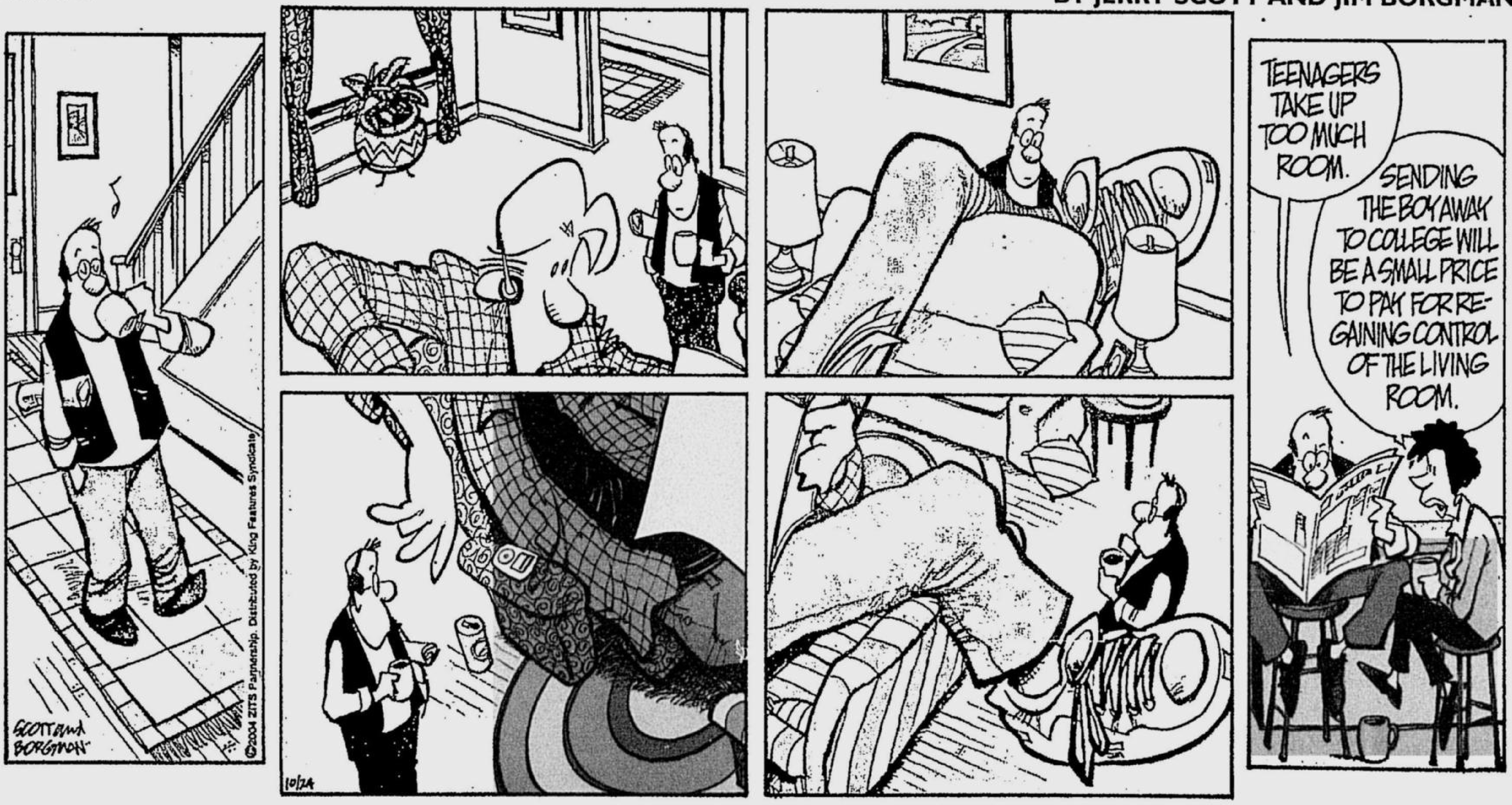
TRICK
TREATS
DING DONG
10/31
MIKE PETERS
HERE YOU GO, KIDS.
TREATS

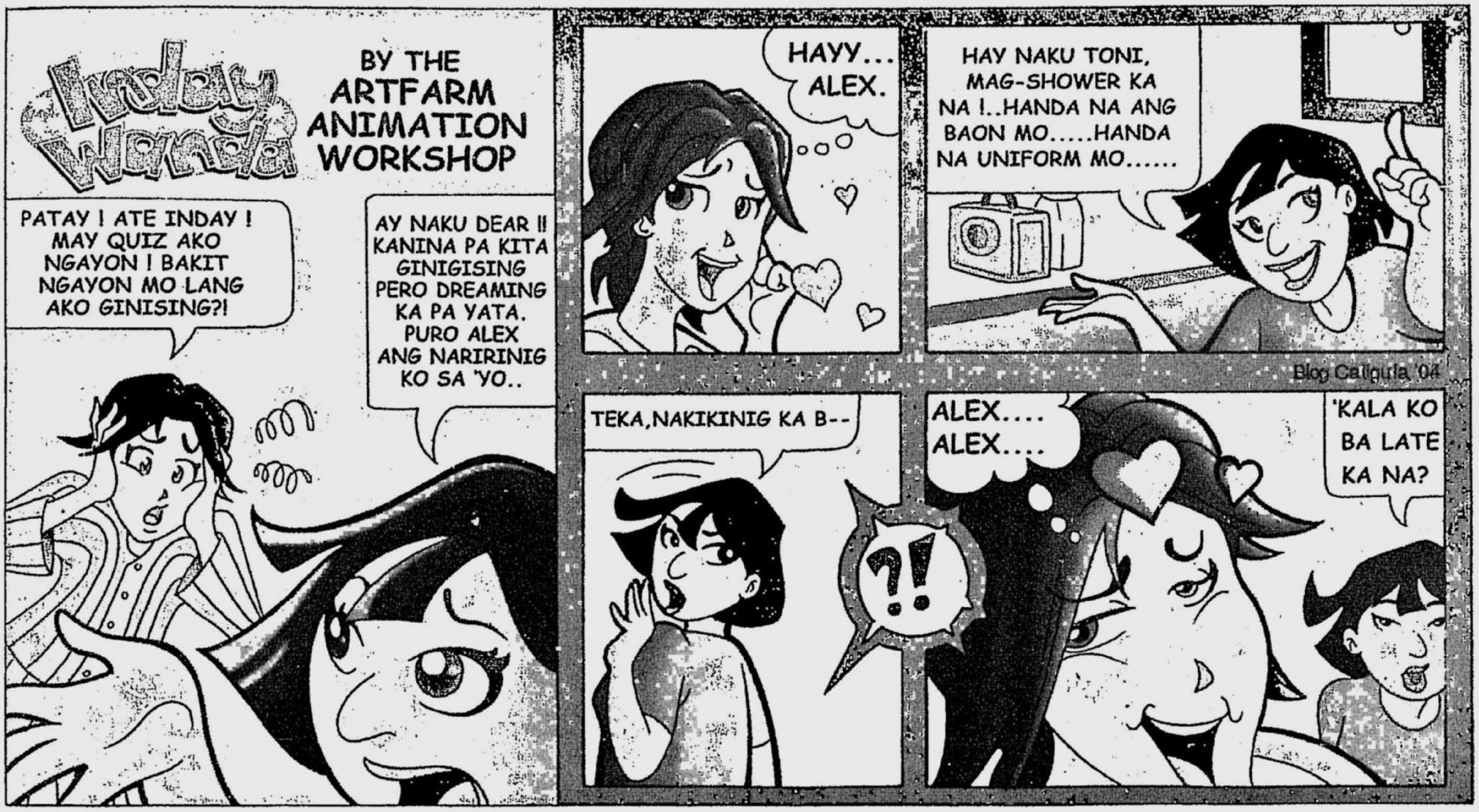
ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


SCOTT and BORGMAN
©2004 ZITS Partnership. Distributed by King Features Syndicate
10/24
TEENAGERS TAKE UP TOO MUCH ROOM.
SENDING THE BOY AWAY TO COLLEGE WILL BE A SMALL PRICE TO PAY FOR RE-GAINING CONTROL OF THE LIVING ROOM.

INDAY WANDA

BY BLOG CALIGUIA

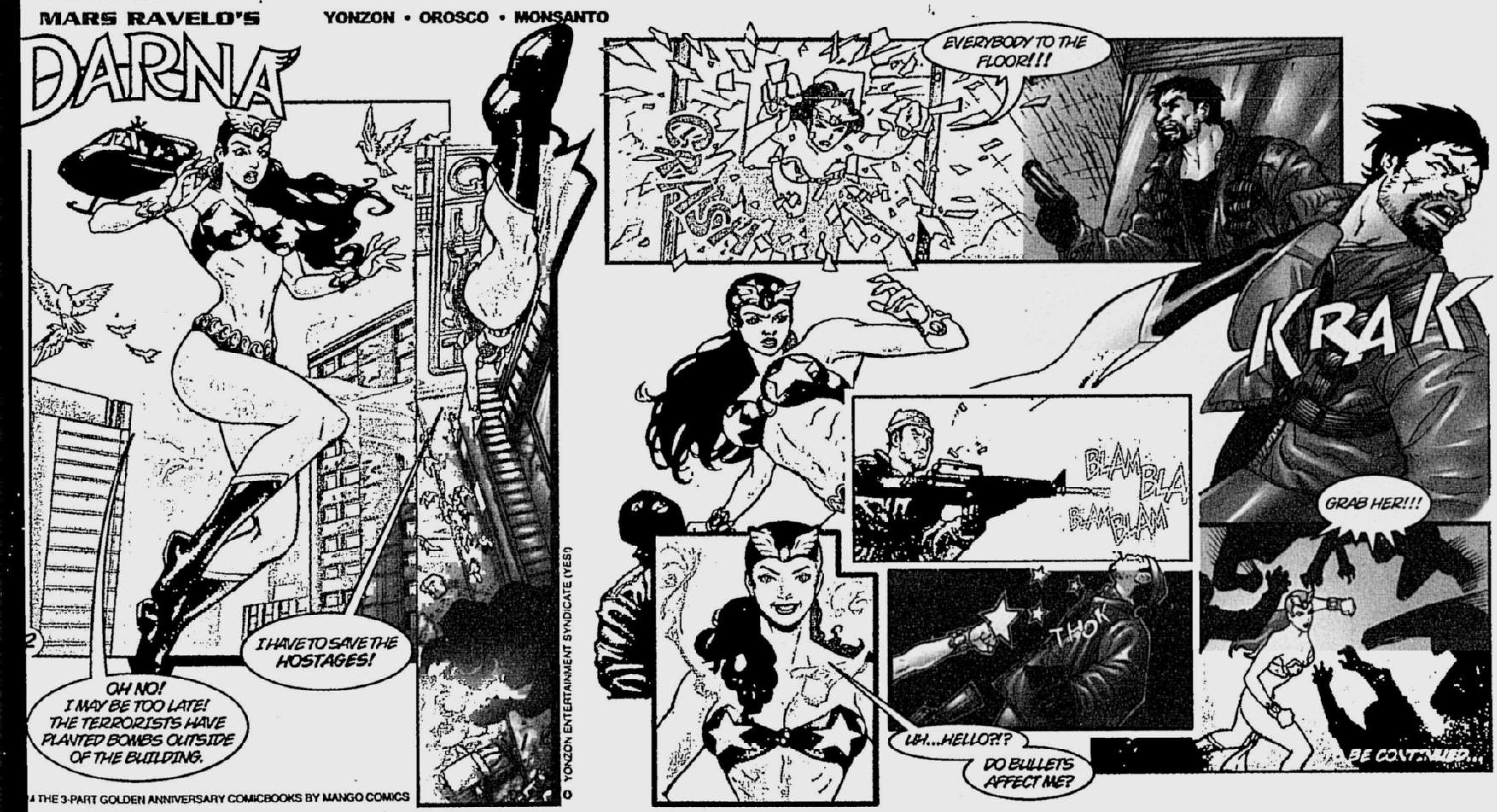

Inday Wanda
BY THE ARTFARM ANIMATION WORKSHOP
PATAY ! ATE INDAY ! MAY QUIZ AKO NGAYON ! BAKIT NGAYON MO LANG AKO GINISING?!
AY NAKU DEAR !! KANINA PA KITA GINIGISING PERO DREAMING KA PA YATA. PURO ALEX ANG NARIRINIG KO SA 'YO..
HAYY... ALEX.
HAY NAKU TONI, MAG-SHOWER KA NA !..HANDA NA ANG BAON MO.....HANDA NA UNIFORM MO......
Blog Caligula '04
TEKA, NAKIKINIG KA B--
?!
ALEX.... ALEX....
'KALA KO BA LATE KA NA?

A.

FOLD OUT AT CENTER TO GET THE BIG PICTURE

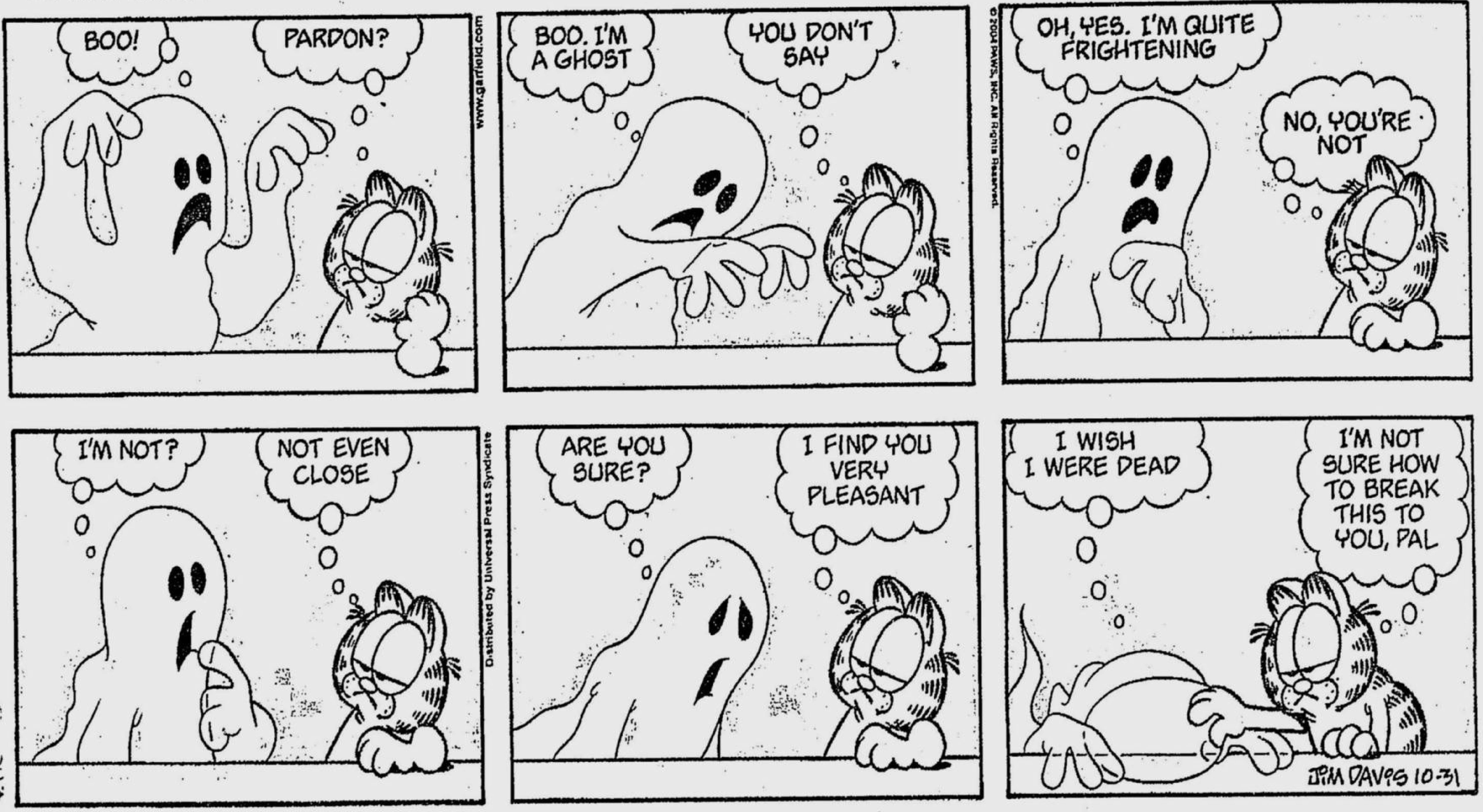
DARNA

BY MANGO COMICS


MARS RAVELO'S
YONZON • OROSCO • MONSANTO
DARNA
I HAVE TO SAVE THE HOSTAGES!
OH NO! I MAY BE TOO LATE! THE TERRORISTS HAVE PLANTED BOMBS OUTSIDE OF THE BUILDING.
THE 3-PART GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY COMICBOOKS BY MANGO COMICS
© YONZON ENTERTAINMENT SYNDICATE (YES!)
EVERYBODY TO THE FLOOR!!!
KRAK
BLAM BLA BLAM BLAM
GRAB HER!!!
THOK
UH...HELLO?!?
DO BULLETS AFFECT ME?
BE CONTINUED...

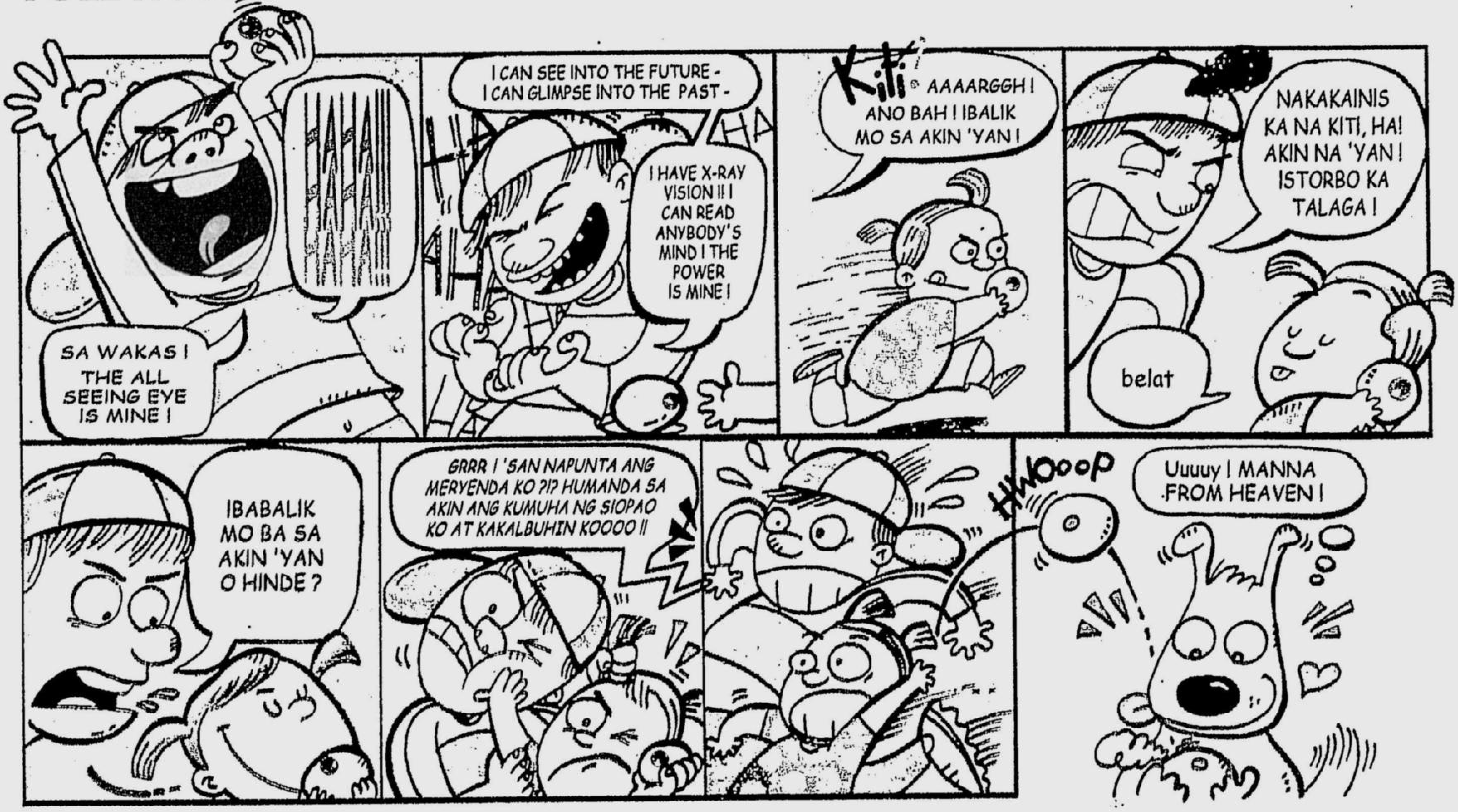
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS


BOO!
PARDON?
www.garfield.com
BOO. I'M A GHOST
YOU DON'T SAY
©2004 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
OH, YES. I'M QUITE FRIGHTENING
NO, YOU'RE NOT
I'M NOT?
NOT EVEN CLOSE
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
ARE YOU SURE?
I FIND YOU VERY PLEASANT
I WISH I WERE DEAD
I'M NOT SURE HOW TO BREAK THIS TO YOU, PAL
JIM DAVIS 10-31

FULL HOUSE

BY STEPH BRAVO

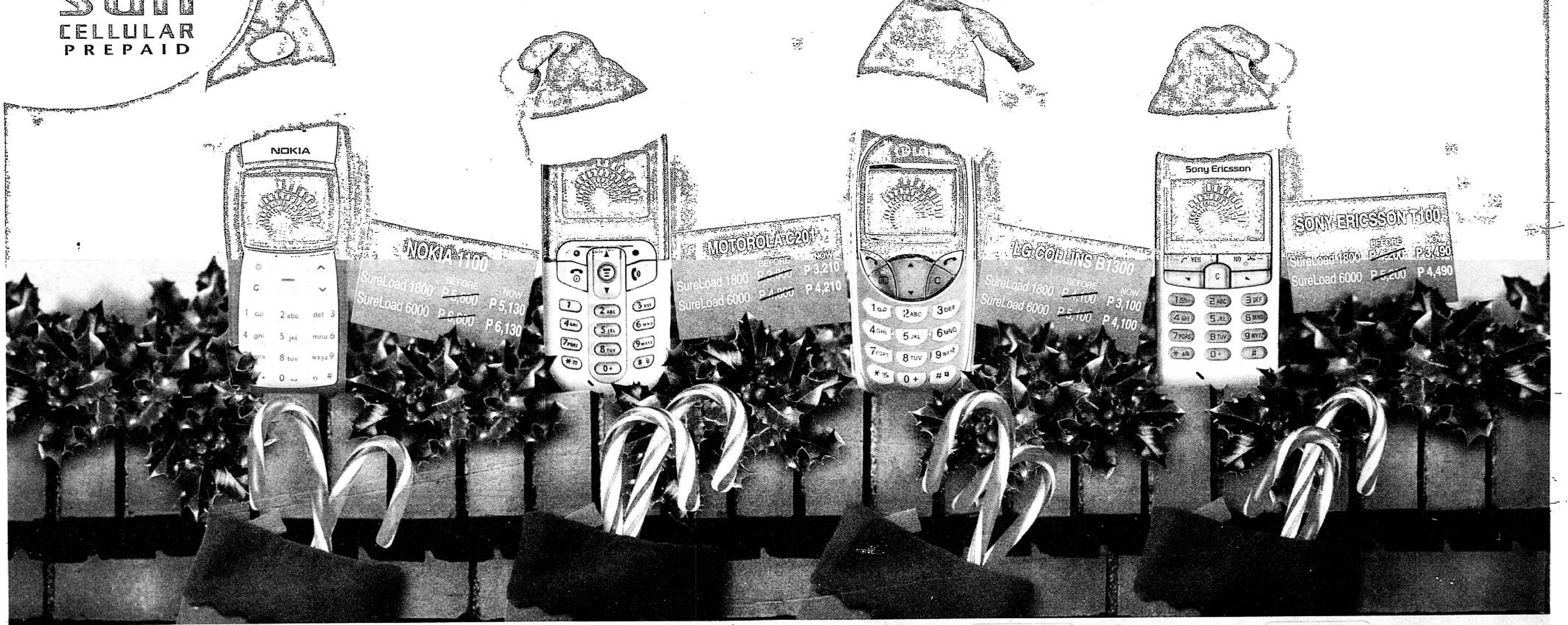

HAHAHAHAHA!!
SA WAKAS! THE ALL SEEING EYE IS MINE!
I CAN SEE INTO THE FUTURE - I CAN GLIMPSE INTO THE PAST -
HA HA HA
I HAVE X-RAY VISION!! I CAN READ ANYBODY'S MIND! THE POWER IS MINE!
Kiti!
AAAARGGH! ANO BAH! IBALIK MO SA AKIN 'YAN!
NAKAKAINIS KA NA KITI, HA! AKIN NA 'YAN! ISTORBO KA TALAGA!
belat
IBABALIK MO BA SA AKIN 'YAN O HINDE?
GRRR! 'SAN NAPUNTA ANG MERYENDA KO?!? HUMANDA SA AKIN ANG KUMUHA NG SIOPAO KO AT KAKALBUHIN KOOOO!!
HWOOOP
Uuuuy! MANNA FROM HEAVEN!

B. TURN THE PAGE TO GET IT RIGHT

SUN CELLULAR PREPAID

Our biggest pre-Christmas sale --

Enjoy unbelievable discounts on Sun Cellular SureLoad Phone Kits!



NOKIA 1100

	BEFORE	NOW
SureLoad 1800	~~P 5,600~~	P 5,130
SureLoad 6000	~~P 6,600~~	P 6,130

MOTOROLA C201

	BEFORE	NOW
SureLoad 1800	~~P [illegible]~~	P 3,210
SureLoad 6000	~~P 4,[illegible]~~	P 4,210

LG COLLINS B1300

	BEFORE	NOW
SureLoad 1800	~~P 4,100~~	P 3,100
SureLoad 6000	~~P 5,100~~	P 4,100

SONY ERICSSON T100

	BEFORE	NOW
SureLoad 1800	~~P [illegible]~~	P 3,490
SureLoad 6000	~~P 5,200~~	P 4,490

24/7 CALL & TEXT UNLIMITED

Sun Cellular SureLoad Phone Kits -- now even made more affordable. Get one for yourself, Dad, Mom and the rest of the family. October 23 - November 30 only. What's more, you can also avail of 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited to call and text all you want, Sun to Sun.

Sun Cellular. *Better Network. Better Value.*

SURELOAD 1800
With P1,800 worth of load
P150 monthly load
plus 25 FREE text for 12 months

SURELOAD 6000
With P6,000 worth of load
P250 monthly load
plus 40 FREE text for 24 months.

The Sun Shops: MAKATI Park Square One MANDALUYONG SM Megamall Cyberzone, Shangri-La Plaza Mall MANILA Robinsons Manila, SM Manila, SM Centerpoint MINDANAO SM Davao, Robinsons Cagayan de Oro; Gaisano Mall Davao NORTH LUZON Robinsons Starmills Pampanga, Robinsons Angeles, SM Marilao, SM Baguio PASIG/RIZAL Robinsons Metro East, Robinsons Cainta QUEZON CITY Robinsons Galleria, SM North Edsa Carpark Building, SM Fairview SAN JUAN Greenhills, 1st Flr Jewelery Center PARAÑAQUE/ALABANG/LAS PIÑAS SM Bicutan, SM Southmall, Filinvest Festival Mall SOUTH LUZON Robinsons Sta. Rosa, Robinsons Imus, Robinsons Dasmariñas, Robinsons Lipa, SM Bacoor VISAYAS Robinsons Iloilo, Robinsons Cebu, Robinsons Bacolod, SM Cebu **Also available at these outlets:** Comworks • Mega Cellular • Quick.com • Graphic Stores • Spacecom • E Phone • ADI Telecom • Wellcom Telecom Supermarket • Netscape Wireless Inc. • Semicon Robinsons Supermarket • Robinsons Choice • Robinsons Department Store • Robinsons Handy Man • Abenson. For more details, contact our hotline: 395-8000 or visit our website: www.suncellular.com.ph

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2597, Series of 2004.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

ENTERTAINMENT Metro

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Louie C. Camino**
Assistant Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

Text us your feedback: inquirer ent name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Vienna Boys Choir performs at The Peninsula

THE VIENNA Boys' Choir, one of the oldest choirs in the world, with a tradition that spans over five centuries.

On Nov. 12, at 6:30 p.m., the choir boys who are also known as "Austria's Singing Ambassadors" will perform old and new music at The Lobby of The Peninsula Manila.

The Vienna Boys' Choir was formed when Emperor Maximil-

VIENNA/2

SPREAD THE MESSAGE NOT THE VIRUS

MTV
MUSIC TELEVISION®
staying-alive.org
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MTV brings back the BIGGEST MUSIC FEST in the Philippines!

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SeeMall!

AYALA CINEMAS THX

Movies/schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729-7777

ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4	GB3 GREENBELT 3	ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU
1 THE GRUDGE	1 BEFORE SUNSET	1 WHITE CHICKS	GUARANTEED SEATS 1 BEFORE SUNSET 1:10, 3 10, 5:10, 7.10, 9 10, 11.10	1 LADDER 49
2 BEFORE SUNSET	2 THE GRUDGE	2 CELLULAR	GUARANTEED SEATS 2 THE GRUDGE 12 45, 2 50, 4 55, 7 00, 9 05, 11 10	2 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
3 SUPERBABIES: BABY GENIUSES 2	3 CELLULAR	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 THE GRUDGE 12 05, 2 10, 4 15, 6 20, 8 25, 10 30	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 SUPERBABIES 1 30, 3 30, 5.30, 7.30, 9:30	3 SECRET WINDOW
4 CELLULAR	4 WHITE CHICKS	4 SUPERBABIES: BABY GENIUSES 2	GUARANTEED SEATS 4 WHITE CHICKS 2 00, 4 20, 6.40, 9.00, 11.20	4 HEAVEN'S POND
5 WHITE CHICKS		5 SHARK TALE	GUARANTEED SEATS 5 CELLULAR 2 55, 5 00, 7 05, 9 10, 11 15	5 THE PUNISHER
		6 BEFORE SUNSET		
		7 STEAL		

GB1 GREENBELT 1
1 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS 12.00, 2 15, 4.30, 6 45, 9.00
2 THE GRUDGE 1:25, 3 30, 5.35, 7 40, 9 45

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
POOH HALLOWEEN PARTY November 1 and 2, 2004	AV SURFER EXHIBIT November 1 to 11, 2004	DSWD's BRIGHT CHILD BUNGA NG MAPAGKALINGANG PAMILYA PROGRAM November 4, 2004

ENTERTAINMENT LIVE!

GREENBELT 2	GREENBELT 3
GREENBELT 2: MUSIC STYLES EVERY THURSDAYS TO SUNDAYS (7-10pm REAL GROOVE (Thu), ACOUSTIC ANTHOLOGY (Fri), MEAGAN AGUILAR (Sat)	ALIVE AT FIVE! Live it up at Greenbelt's Cocktail Hour Enjoy special discounts from participating restaurants from 5pm to 8pm

Onstage

REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents PINOCCHIO
at REP's GLOBE THEATER - August 7 to December 12, 2004

Ayala MUSEUM

Visit the New Ayala Museum located beside Greenbelt 4 along Makati Avenue.
For inquiries, please call 757-7117.

HALLOWEEN
FAMILY DAY
WEEKEND
GLORIETTA 4 & GREENBELT 3
OCTOBER 30
FREE Do-It-Yourself MASKS
for the first 150 moviegoers
1-4pm, Cinema Lobby
OCTOBER 31
FREE Surprise TREATS
for ALL moviegoers
Cadbury
Per DTI-NCR permit # A1-672. Series of 2004

ordinary college student james and
the nation's first daughter samantha,
find themselves falling for each other.
mission impossible?

katie holmes

first daughter

opens november 3 at ayala cinemas
mtrcb rating: general audience (G)

Celebrate Pooh Halloween Party!
at Ayala Malls

Alabang Town Center : October 27-30, 2004
Ayala Center Makati : October 29-November 2 , 2004

Meet and Greet Pooh & Friends!
Alabang Town Center
October 27, 28 & 30, 2004
Ayala Center Makati
October 29, 31 & November 2, 2004
11 am, 2 pm, 4 pm, 6 pm

Come Trick or Treating in your spookiest costume and win a prize!
Alabang Town Center October 30, 2004 4:30 pm
Ayala Center Makati October 31, 2004 4:30 pm

making great things possible Globe

AYALA CENTER · LoveMall! · TOWN

www.ayalamalls.com.ph

What If You Had A Second Chance With The One That Got Away?
Ethan Hawke · Julie Delpy
Before Sunset

In a stimulating journey through Paris...
redicover a rare yet powerful love.

"...a remarkable achievement in several ways..."
— Roger Ebert, CHICAGO SUN TIMES

"...a film of luminous delights..."
— Michael Wilmington, CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"...one of the most wildly romantic movies in ages..."
— Kirk Honeycutt, HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

For screening schedule, pls. call 729-7777

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AYALA CINEMAS

CUSTOMER SERVICE TEXT HOTLINE: 0917-6095900 • CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE: Glorietta - 752-7272; from 10am to 8pm • Greenbelt - 757-4853; from 11am to 12mn • Alabang Town Center - 842-2782; from 10am to 8pm Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231-5342 loc 324 • AYALA CINEMA LINKS: For screening times call 729-7777. Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart). Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

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Special Screening
October 30, 31 and November 1, 2

SM Megamall · North Edsa · Manila · Sta. Mesa ·
Southmall · Fairview · Bacoor · Sucat · Bicutan

Tickets are at Php 200.00

whattowatch

THE PODIUM CINEMA

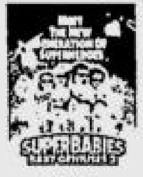
For Seat Reservation, call 633 8976
LATE NIGHT SCREENING
DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS

1 BUNNY GUARDS

2 BEFORE SUNSET

BABY GENIUSES 2 MTRCB Rating: GP

SM Tutuban Cinema 1 | SM City Fairview Cinema 8 | SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 9, SM Southmall Cinema 2 | SM City Manila Cinema 5, SM Megamall Cinema 5



BEFORE SUNSET MTRCB Rating: PG 13

SM City Manila Cinema 6 | SM Megamall Cinema 9 | SM City North Edsa Cinema 6

CELLULAR MTRCB Rating: PG13

SM Megamall Cinema 3, SM Southmall Cinema 9 | SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 5, SM City Fairview Cinema 4, SM City Bicutan Cinema 1 | SM City Manila Cinema 3, SM City North Edsa Cinema 3, SM Supercenter Sucat Cinema 3

THE GRUDGE MTRCB Rating: R13

SM City Manila Cinema 4, SM City North Edsa Cinema 8, SM City Fairview Cinema 7 | SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 1, SM Southmall Cinema 3, SM Tutuban Cinema 2 | SM City Bicutan Cinema 4, SM Megamall Cinema 2

SUBJECT TO MTRCB RATING SKY CAPTAIN AND THE WORLD OF TOMMOROW

SM Megamall Cinema 7

STEAL SUBJECT TO MTRCB RATING

SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 4 | SM Southmall Cinema 8 | SM City Fairview Cinema 6

WHITE CHICKS MTRCB Rating: PG13

SM Tutuban Cinema 4, SM Supercenter Sucat Cinema 1, SM City Fairview Cinema 5 | SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 3, SM Southmall Cinema 4, SM City Bicutan Cinema 3 | SM City Manila Cinema 1, SM City North Edsa Cinema 7, SM Megamall Cinema 8

DOLL MASTER MTRCB RATING: R 13
SM City Manila Cinema 9, SM Megamall Cinema 12, SM City North Edsa Cinema 5 | SM City Sta.Mesa Cinema 6, SM Southmall Cinema 10 | SM City Fairview Cinema 9, SM Tutuban Cinema 3

HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS MTRCB Rating: PG 13
SM City Manila Cinema 2

LADDER 49 MTRCB Rating: PG 13
SM City Manila Cinema 11, SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 10 | SM City Fairview Cinema 11

RESIDENT EVIL MTRCB Rating: R 13
SM City Manila Cinema 10, SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 8 | SM City Fairview Cinema 3

SHARK TALE MTRCB Rating: GP
SM City Manila Cinema 8, SM Megamall Cinema 11 | SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 7, SM Southmall Cinema 5 | SM City Fairview Cinema 2

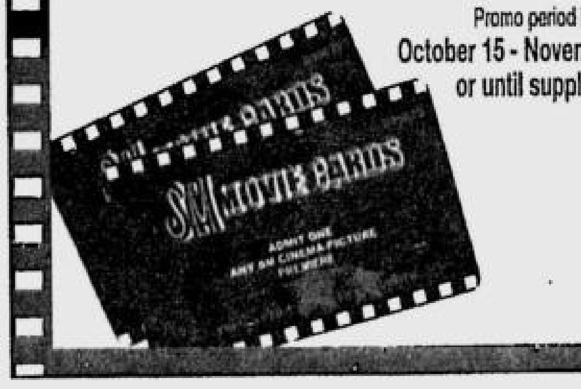
Movies are subject to change without prior notice • For complete movie schedule, visit www.smcinema.com

Movie Mania!

Get 50% off on movie tickets*!

Avail of this discount upon purchase of any Frito Lay big bag or Lay's Stax. Simply exchange your empty stickered packs at any SM Cinema ticket booth to get this cool discount!

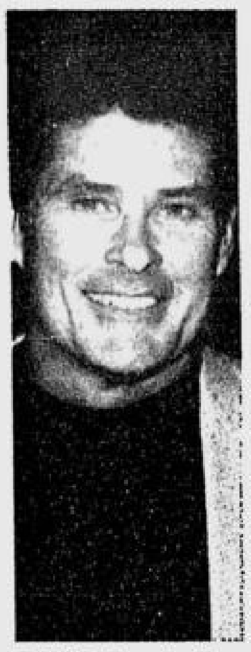
Promo period is from
October 15 - November 15, 2004
or until supplies last.



*Movie ticket is valid for one (1) year upon date of redemption but for single use only.
**Maximum of (2) two tickets per transaction.

SM CINEMA

Per BFAD Permit 1058 Series of 2004



DAVID Hasselhoff

Probation for drunk 'Knight Rider'

LOS ANGELES—US actor David Hasselhoff, known for his role on "Baywatch," was sentenced Thursday on charges of driving under the influence of alcohol.

Hasselhoff, 52, pleaded no contest to charges in a Van Nuys, California courtroom, stemming from a June 5 arrest in Encino.

The actor was also known for his role in the television series "Knight Rider."

The actor did not appear in court. Instead, his lawyer entered the plea to the charge of driving with a blood-alcohol level above .08, according to the prosecutor's office.

The judge sentenced Hasselhoff to three years' probation and revoked his driver's license for 90 days.

He must also attend an alcohol treatment program and perform 200 hours of community work.

Hasselhoff was treated for alcohol problems at the Betty Ford Center in June 2002, according to local television CBS2. *AFP*

Vienna Boys Choir...

From page 2

ian 1 wanted a dozen choirboys for private masses and concerts for the court. After the 1920s, the choir changed its uniform in favor of sailor suits, and widened its repertoire.

Today, the Vienna Boys Choir has four groups that constantly tour the world, rendering unforgettable performances wherever they go.

When the Vienna Boys Choir performs at The Peninsula Manila on Nov. 12, there will be a minimum consumable charge of P350.

The event is a project of The Peninsula Manila, the Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila Broadcasting Co., Mont Blanc fragrances and the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) with the support of Malayan Insurance and Ralph's Wines and Spirits.

For inquiries, contact The Peninsula Manila at 887-2888 and 812-3456, extension 2205.

NINA, NYOY AT TAVERN

Making their debut at the Tavern on the Square this November are soul siren Nina (below) and pop-acoustic performer Nyoy Volante. Nyoy and the Manos (right) will charm Tavern habitués on Nov. 2, 9 and 30. Nina will set the Tavern stage ablaze with her music on Nov. 3 and 10. Located at the second floor of Greenbelt 3 in Makati City, Tavern on the Square is open Mondays to Saturdays starting at 6 p.m. with shows starting at 9 p.m. For inquiries on bookings and reservations, call 7574484 or 85.

POWER PLANT CINEMA

Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

SHARK TALE GP 11:15,3:35,7:55 **BABY GENUISES 2 GP** 1:25,5:45,10:05	**BEFORE SUNSET PG13** 12:00,2:00,4:00, 6:00,8:00,10:20	**WHITE CHICKS PG13** 12:40,3:00,5:20,7:40,10:05
THE GRUDGE R13 1:25,3:35,5:45,7:55,10:10	**LADDER 49 PG13** 12:10,2:35,5:00,7:25,9:50	**CELLULAR PG13** 1:25,3:35,5:45,7:55,10:00

MATINEE SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - P 81 - MON. TO FRI.

200+ LITTLE MONSTERS ON THE CATWALK

Halloween Parade at Rockwell
October 31
Registration Period: 22nd-27th
Cadbury freebies await.

See posters and flyers for details. Per DTI Permit No. A1-665, Series of 2004.

POWER PLANT MALL

Araneta Center

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX

- 3 Dolby BABY GENIUSES 2 10:10 am 12:20 pm 2:30 pm 4:40 pm 6:50 pm 9:00 pm
- 4 SDDS THE GRUDGE 11:20 am 1:45 pm 4:10 pm 6:35 pm 9:00 pm
- 5 dts CELLULAR 12:20 nn 2:30 pm 4:40 pm 6:50 pm 9:00 pm
- 6 Dolby THE DOLL MASTER 12:20 pm 2:30 pm 4:40 pm 6:50 pm 9:00 pm
- 7 Dolby ROOM SERVICE 11:55 am 2:05 pm 4:15 pm 6:25 pm 8:35 pm

NEW FIESTA CARNIVAL

OPEN TODAY 2 PM to 10 PM

ARANETA COLISEUM

Nov 3	ALASKA vs STA LUCIA
Nov 6	AND 1 MIX & PBL ALL STAR GAME
Nov 7	COKE vs STA LUCIA
Nov 10	ALASKA vs COKE
Nov 12	KYLA IN CONCERT

For tickets, call TicketNet at 911-5555

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE

QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	KARELASYON / NAG-AAPOY NA LAMAN
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	TUKSO SI CHARITO
B	CLOSED
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA 1,2,3 & 4	BEFORE SUNSET / GRUDGE / SHARK TALE / WHITE CHICKS
PREMIERE THEATRE	LADDER 49

CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	KARIBAL
CINEMA-2	ROOM SERVICE
CINEMA-3	SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	STEAL
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	OPEN WATER
CINEMA-6	FENG SHUI
CINEMA-7	LADDER 49
CINEMA-8	HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	THE GRUDGE
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	BABY GENIUSES 2
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	DOLL MASTER
CINEMA-12	WHITE CHICKS
CINEMA-14	SHARK TALE
CINEMA-15	CELLULAR

LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
(LAS PIÑAS)	BOURNE SUPREMACY
CINEMA-1	FENG SHUI
CINEMA-2	SECRET WINDOW
CINEMA-4	BANGKOK HAUNTED 2

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

EASTWOOD CINEMAS

Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City

For inquiries, call:
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1	THE GRUDGE	11:30, 1:50, 4:10, 6:30 8:50, 11:10	R-13
2	WHITE CHICKS	10:45, 1:15, 3:45 6:15, 8:45, 11:15	PG-13
3	SHARK TALE	11:40, 1:50, 4:00, 6:10 8:20, 10:30	GP
4	BEFORE SUNSET	12:20, 2:30, 4:40 6:50, 9:00, 11:15	PG-13

SHANG CINEPLEX

1. BEFORE SUNSET FS 11:10PM, 1:20PM, 3:30PM, 5:40PM, 7:50PM LMF : 10 PM (PG-13)
2. GRUDGE FS 10:20AM, 12:40PM, 3PM, 5:20PM, 7:40PM LMF . 10 PM (R-13)
3. SHARK TALE FS 11:30AM, 1:30PM, 3:30PM, 5:30PM, 7:30PM LMF : 9:30 PM (GP)
4. WHITE CHICKS FS 12PM, 2:30PM, 5PM, 7:30PM LMF . 10 PM (PG-13)

PREMIERE THEATRE LADDER 49 FS 11:40AM, 2:15PM, 4:50PM, 7:25PM, LMF: 10 PM (PG-13)

For more information please call 633-2227 / 633-7851 loc. 171

Shangri-La Plaza

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NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1	**BEFORE SUNSET** 11:15, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:05	**PG13**
CINEMA 2	**THE GRUDGE** 11:20, 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:05	**R13**

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GALLERIA

632-9115 to 16

CINEMA 1 THX LADDER 49 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

2	BEFORE SUNSET	10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
3	SUPER BABIES: BABY GENIUSES 2	11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00
4	CELLULAR	11:10, 1:20, 3.30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00
5	THE GRUDGE	10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10.00
6	WHITE CHICKS	10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5.20, 7:40, 10:00
7	SHARK TALE	11:10, 1:20, 3.30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00
8	THE SIN	12:40, 3:00, 5 20, 7:40, 10:00
9	THE DOLL MASTER	11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10 00
10	HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS	11:20, 2.00, 4.40, 7.20, 10:00

ERMITA

536-7809 to 12

1	BEFORE SUNSET	10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:00
2	THE DOLL MASTER	10:20, 12:05, 2:00, 3:55, 5:50, 7:45, 9:40
3	THE GRUDGE	10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8.30, 10:00
4	CELLULAR	10:30, 12.30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:25, 8:25, 10:00
5	SUPERBABIES: BABY GENIUSES 2	10:20, 12:05, 2:00, 3:55, 5:50, 7:45, 9:45
6	WHITE CHICKS	10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
7	SHARK TALE	10:20, 12:15, 2:10, 4.05, 6:00, 7:55, 9:50

METRO EAST

682-8193/99 / 682-8280

1	THE DOLL MASTER	11:50, 2:10, 4:30, 6 50, 9:10
2	LADDER 49	10:20, 12:30, 4.50, 7:00, 9:10
3	HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS	11:40, 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00
4	CELLULAR	10:50, 12.50, 2.50, 4·50, 6:50, 9:00
5	THE GRUDGE	10:25, 12:50, 3:15, 5 40, 8.05, 10:30
6	SUPERBABIES:BABY GENIUSES 2	10:50, 1:10, 3 30, 5.50, 8.10, 10:30
7	WHITE CHICKS	11:50, 2:30, 5 10, 7·50, 10:30
8	STEAL	10:50, 12.50, 2.50, 4:50, 6:50, 8:50, 10:30

NOVALICHES

935-3229 / 31

1	LADDER 49	11:00, 1:25, 3:50, 6:15, 8:40
2	WHITE CHICKS	10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4.30, 6.30, 8.30
3	STEAL	10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30
4	FENG SHUI	12:30, 2:30, 4.30, 6:30, 8:30
5	SHARK TALE	10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30
6	THE DOLL MASTER	11 00, 1·25, 3 50, 6:15, 8 40
7	HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS	10 30, 1 00, 3:30, 6.00, 8 30
8	SKY CAPTAIN	10:30, 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

Citisquare MALABON

288-0985/2575

1	A GOOD LAWYER'S WIFE	11:45, 1.55, 4.05, 6:15, 8.30
2	MINDHUNTERS	11.45, 1.55, 4.05, 6 15, 8.30
3	DEAD PEOPLE	11:45, 1.55, 4:05, 6:15, 8.30
4	TUKSO...SI CHARITO 2	10.55, 12.50, 2:45, 4:40, 6:35, 8 30

CAINTA

240-4661

1	INTERNET QUEEN	10:20, 12:20, 2.20, 4:20, 6:20, 8:20
2	WHITE CHICKS	12.50, 3 30, 6:10, 8.50
3	THE DOLL MASTER	11:00, 1:20, 3:40, 6:00, 8:20
4	ROOM SERVICE	10:20, 12:20, 2:20, 4:20, 6:20, 8 20

Tom Hanks
Catherine Zeta-Jones
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Congratulations to the winners of The Terminal RAFFLE PROMO

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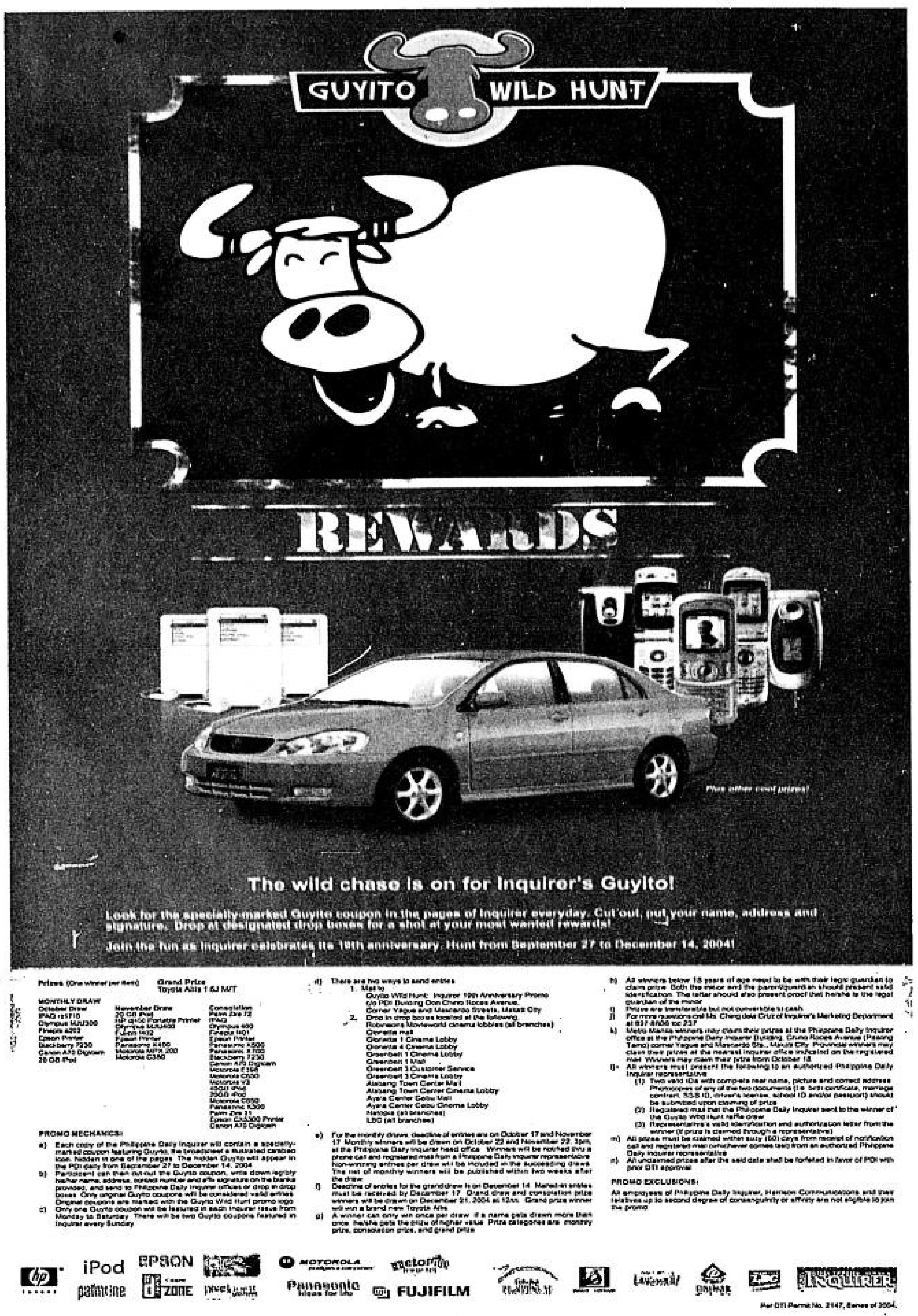

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Look for the specially-marked Guyito coupon in the pages of Inquirer everyday. Cut out, put your name, address and signature. Drop at designated drop boxes for a shot at your most wanted rewards!

Join the fun as Inquirer celebrates its 19th anniversary. Hunt from September 27 to December 14, 2004!

Per DTI Permit No. 2147, Series of 2004.

GUYITO WILD HUNT
REWARDS

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Hunt from September 27 to December 14, 2004!

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Bonifacio Global City

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AIR-CONDITIONED, CLEAN, SECURE,
AND SAFE SHOPPING ENVIRONMENT.

The fun is in the finds

cinemas! cinemas!

CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE UNDER CINEMAS: 886-7515

1	The Grudge
2	Before Sunset
3	Superbabies: Baby Geniuses 2
4	White Chicks
5	Shark Tale
6	Doll Master
7	Cellular

events! events!

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MOVIE GUIDE
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PREMIERE THEATRE (DOLBY) LADDER 49 PG-13

1 (DOLBY)	BEFORE SUNSET PG-13
2 (DOLBY)	GRUDGE R-13
3 (DOLBY)	SHARK TALE GP
4 (DOLBY)	WHITE CHICKS PG-13

SUPER CINERAMA
CINERAMA COMPLEX RECTO
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1. (DOLBY)	THE SIN
2.	BEFORE SUNSET
3.	CELLULAR
4.	GRUDGE
5.	ROOM SERVICE

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4 (SDDS)	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6 (DOLBY)	RESERVE
7 (DTS)	RESERVE
8	RESERVE
9	RESERVE

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1	ROOM SERVICE
2	THE SIN

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	ROOM SERVICE
2	SHOU YOU TRAIN
3	MGA BABAE SA BREAK WATER
4 (DTS)	BOLD STAR

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DDS)	BABY GENIUSES
2 (SDDS)	LADDER 49
3 (DTS)	SHARK TALE
4 GOLD (DTS)	BEFORE SUNSET
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	SHARK TALE
6 GOLD (SDDS)	WHITE CHICKS
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	GRUDGE
8 (ATMS)	SKY CAPTAIN
9 (ATMS)	THE DOLL MASTER
10 (ATMS)	CELLULAR

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274

1	THE SIN
2	THE GRUDGE
3	ROOM SERVICE

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	STEAL
2	OPEN WATER
3	DEAD PEOPLE
4	PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel (047) 237.7007

1 (DOLBY)	INTERNET QUEEN
2	RETURN OF THE DEMOND

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
tel 687.6963 or 72

1 (DOLBY)	THE GRUDGE
2 (DOLBY)	WHITE CHICKS
3 (DOLBY)	SHARK TALE
4 (DOLBY)	BEFORE SUNSET

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT Araneta Center
ALIMALL CINEPLEX
Tel. 911-3101 loc. 8242 / 8281 / 8397

3 (Dolby)	BABY GENIUSES 2
4 (SDDS)	THE GRUDGE
5 (DTS)	CELLULAR
6 (Dolby)	THE DOLL MASTER
7 (Dolby)	ROOM SERVICE

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE
3	SKY CAPTAIN
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX)	OPEN WATER
5	ROOM SERVICE

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285

1	TUKSO SI CHARITO
2	ROOM SERVICE
3	WHITE CHICKS
4	DOLL MASTER
5 (DOLBY)	HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
6	PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

17 MILLION

REASONS WE RELENTLESSLY INNOVATE

A Bigger World

There can be no denying that more and more people have different celfone needs and desires, and SMART innovations aim to satisfy those individual tastes. You can choose what suits you best. SMART Gold, SMART Buddy, Talk 'N Text and Addict Mobile are now well-established brands, each with its own unique content and identity. Now, with the recent launch of SMART Infinity and Smart Kid, SMART continues to lead in providing tailor-made services that cater to every Filipino's specific needs. SMART allows you to personalize what services and products work best with you as well. You always get value for your money, depending on what your needs and desires are.

Innovator, Innovations!

Others may make claims to being innovators, but we need to check the facts just to be sure. And let's clear the air once and for all.

Just the Facts, Then

SMART was the first to ever introduce the concept of an electronic wallet in your celfone through SMART Money. SMART Load and SMART PasaLoad were the first of their kind anywhere. These cheaper, more convenient loading options were a direct response to the needs of the broader market. These innovations were so groundbreaking, they were awarded at the International GSM Congress in Cannes, France.

Next came SMART Padala, the world's first (again) text-based remittance service and so accessible that the growing ranks of OFWs around the world are now using it to send funds home to their families.

Recently, SMART launched the first international Filipino SIM, 1528 SMART, in Hong Kong. In partnership with PLDT Global, PLDT's international consumer arm, and leading mobile carrier HK CSL, 1528 SMART aims to keep OFWs in touch with their families and friends back home via voice, text and other value added services that SMART is famous for.

Value-Added to You

The SMART Spirit of Innovation continues on in the matchless array of Value-Added Services (VAS) all SMART subscribers enjoy.

The now wildly popular Caller Ringback Tunes (CRBT) were first heard on SMART celfones. Now everyone can enjoy a dose of humor and novelty: men just love Ara Mina's voice welcoming all callers. SMART StarTxt was the first service for Filipinos to text their idols and to hear their daily experiences. Who could resist hearing Diana Zubiri's coy messages or Albert Martinez's personal plans and ideas to improve Philippine cinema?

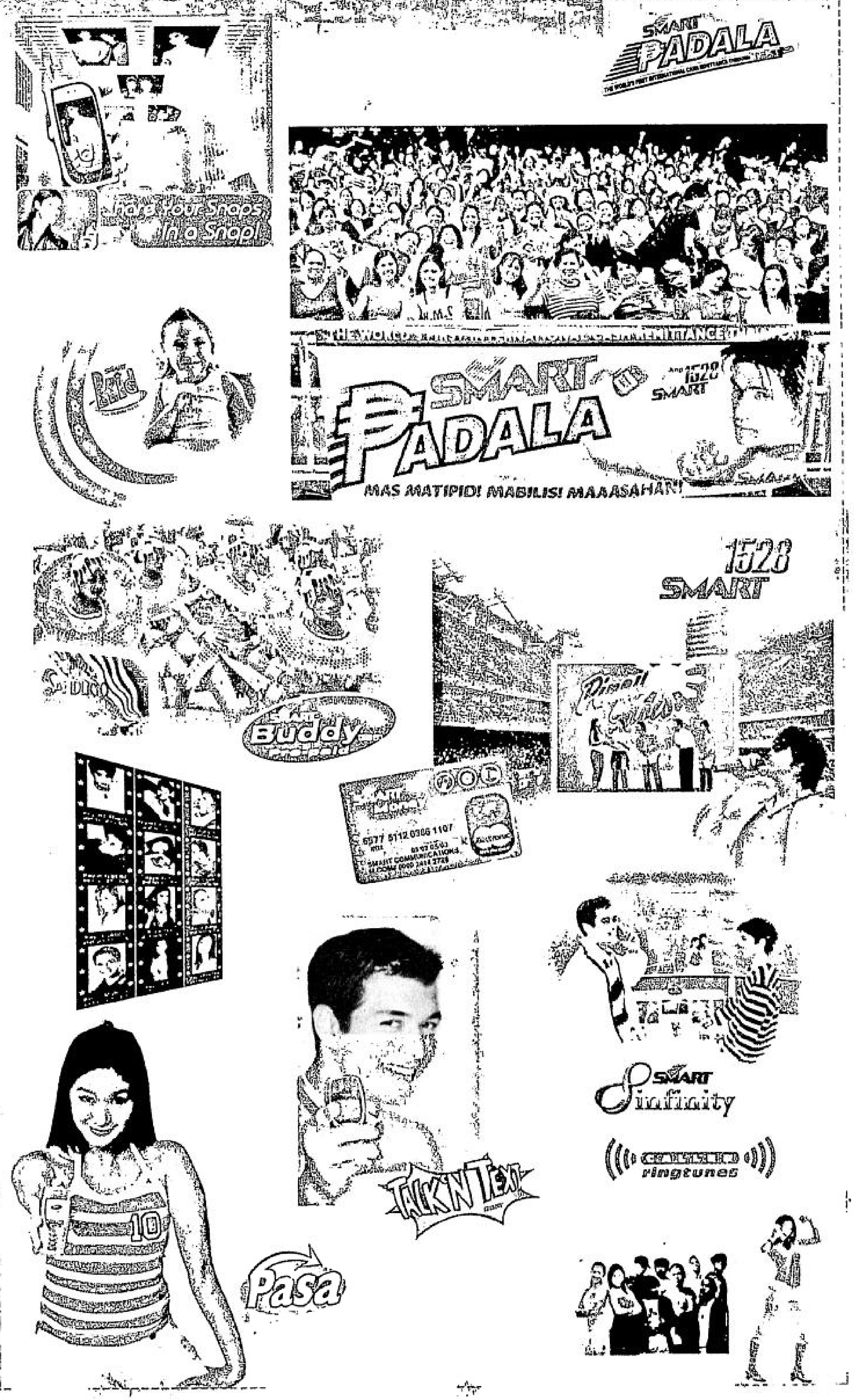
Widest Coverage

SMART has the most number of cellsites and subscribers across the nation, the largest and strongest network in the country. The words "Mas malinaw ang SMART" have virtually become part of the Filipino vernacular, especially out in the provinces. The most number of cellsites make SMART's coverage superiority more than a claim, it's a fact.

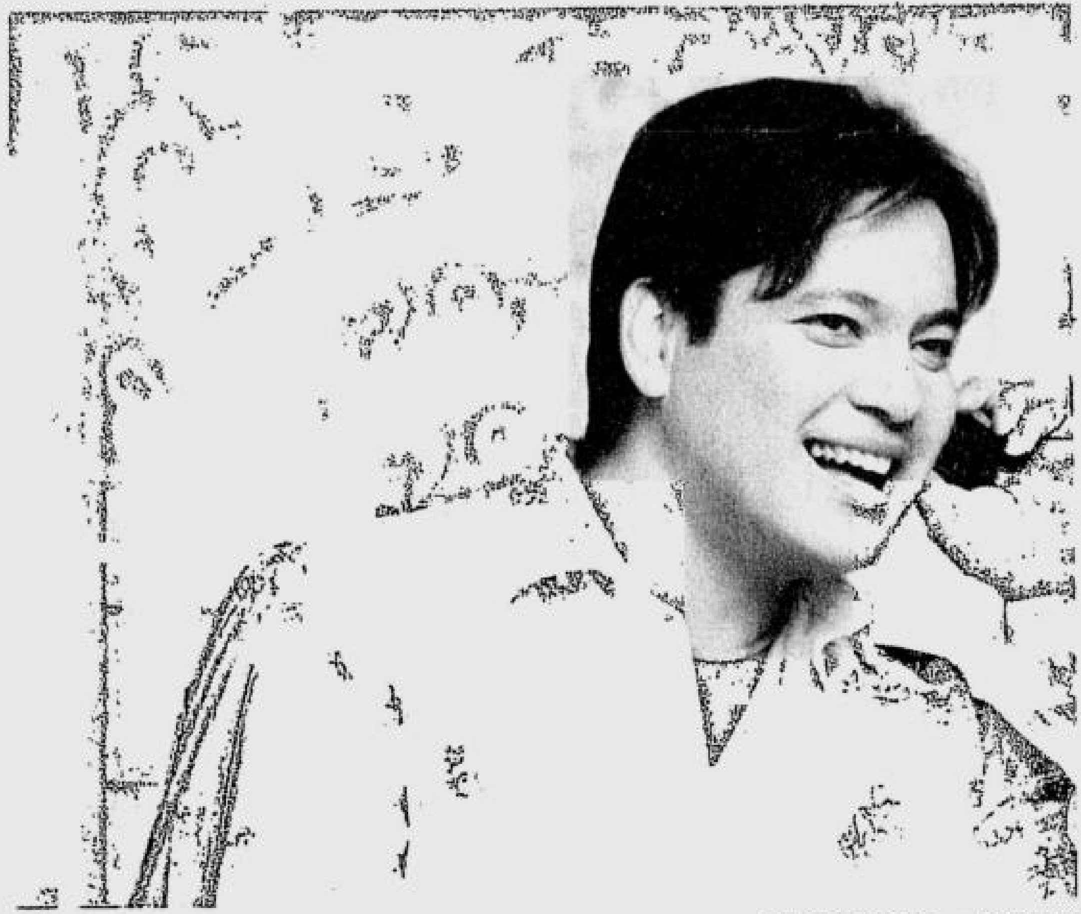
The Customer is the Heart of our Marketing Excellence

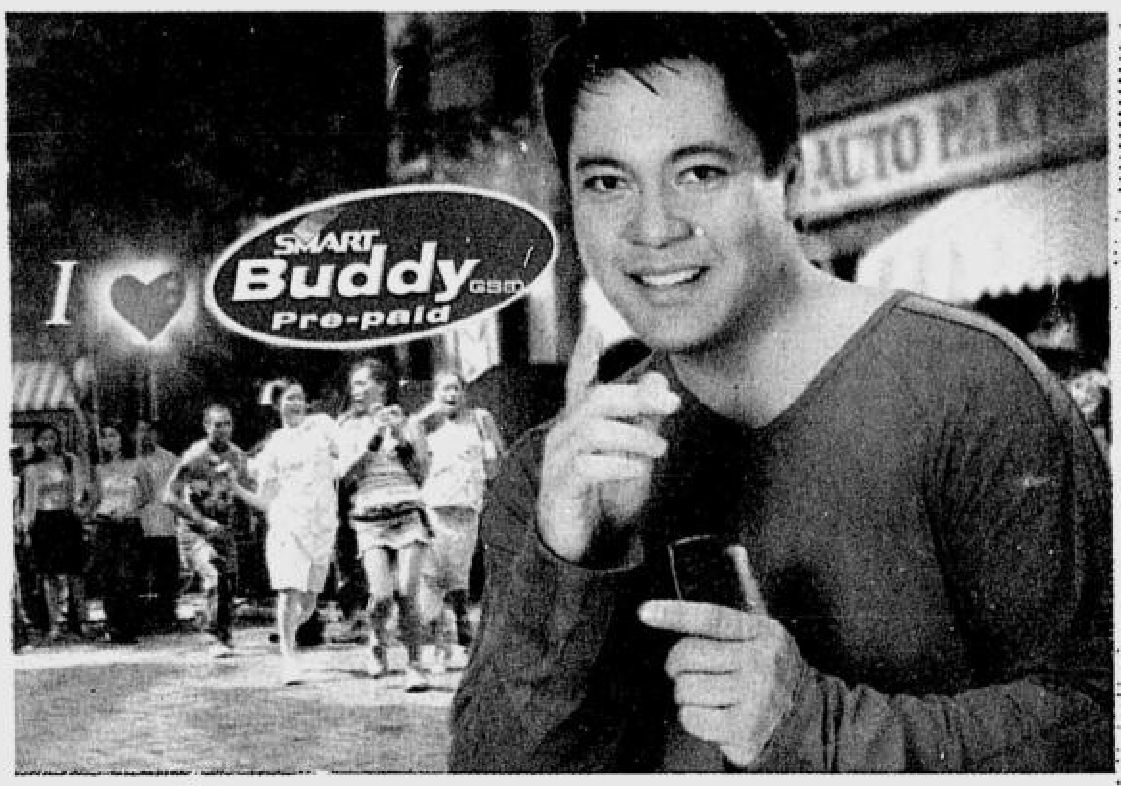
When SMART states that it is "the leader in wireless, the leader in innovations," it's more than a jingoistic line. There is a reason for SMART to innovate and it lies in every individual subscriber.

You are the reason SMART is the success it is today. You are what keeps SMART on its toes, always pushing the envelope and exploring the fringes of the wireless frontier. It is you who are the reason for our existence, and even as we thank you, we promise to work even harder and to never forget where we came from. That's SMART. Simply Amazing.



SMART CELEBRITIES, SMART BRANDS





MARTIN NIEVERA takes center stage in the newest television commercial for SMART—singing the timeless Beatles song, "All You Need Is Love". He is soon joined by a stellar cast in a huge outdoor concert, an outpouring of love from the performers as well as the concert goers. "It's easy," as one line from the song goes, for the leader in wireless, the leader in innovation.

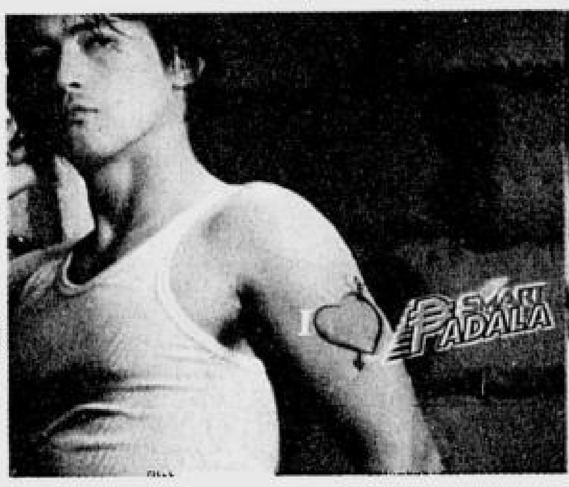
SMART and its impressive portfolio of leading products and services gives its many subscribers—17 million and counting—plenty to love. From basic pre-paid services such as SMART BUDDY, SMART LOAD, and SMART PASALOAD, to post-paid services SMART GOLD and SMART INFINITY; from global services SMART IDD and SMART PADALA to value-added services SMART KID, SMART STARTXT, and SMART CALLER RINGTUNES.

Of course, such an exciting line-up of products and services also demands a star-studded roster of SMART ambassadors—led by Martin Nievera, Kris Aquino, Heart Evangelista, and Robin Padilla, supported by Jasmine Trias, Albert Martinez, Johnny Litton, Joyce Jimenez, Christian Bautista, and Jenny Hernandez.

Martin Nievera has always been comfortable singing, from contemporary ballads to classic hits. Such versatility and flexibility can be seen in SMART BUDDY GSM, a brand that is particularly close to his heart.

Smart Buddy GSM is the wireless business market leader in the country today, with the most subscribers in its roster, and providing the widest coverage, unmatched call quality, broadest range of value-added services, and unequalled pre-paid loading flexibility that no other digital network can give.

I ♥
SMART Pasa Load



Buddy STAR TXT

Friends and loved ones are some of the things Heart Evangelista can't live without. The young star has to constantly juggle and jigsaw-puzzle her acting, singing, and hosting engagements—all while never losing touch with her closest confidantes. For Heart, Smart Load and Smart PasaLoad come in very handy as she's always on the move.

Smart Load is the world's first electronic prepaid loading service that makes use of a Smart GSM celfone to load airtime into your Smart prepaid account.

Smart PasaLoad, on the other hand, is the world's first load transfer service that allows any subscriber on the Smart network to transfer P15, P10, P5, or even P2 load amount to any Smart Buddy subscriber.

Robin Padilla has always been serious about work, flying into the country to fulfill showbiz engagements while living with his family in Australia. For him, SMART PADALA has a special meaning, as it lets him provide for his wife and four children no matter where work takes him.

SMART Padala is the world's first international cash remittance through text that allows cash remittance straight to the Smart celfones of beneficiaries in the Philippines.

As many fans and supporters of KRIS AQUINO know, she has quite a colorful, eventful life. She's also quite the 'texter', never failing to update them through SMART STARTXT—an SMS text-based service where stars personally update fans on their busy showbiz lives. Of course, being a mother herself, Kris takes pains to always be there for her son Joshua. This is why SMART has introduced the first celfone service for children and their parents—*SMART KID*. Services like Family Finder and Kid Locator make it the essential baon for children aged five to twelve years old, while Planet Kid ups the fun and educational content.

Finishing a triumphant third in last season's American Idol, JASMINE TRIAS, dubbed the 'Filipino American Idol', has taken the country by storm. Her short visit to her homeland was full of surprises for the young singer, who now considers home to be two places—Hawaii, the Aloha state and the province of Cavite.

I ♥
SMART GOLD

SMART
CALLER ringtunes

I ♥
SMART Infinity

SMART IDD is committed to serving the needs of Filipinos to keep in touch with their loved ones abroad through reliable and affordable long distance service. With SMART IDD, our favorite American idol and her Filipino family get to avail of an affordable calling rate of just USD 0.40 per minute.

After picking up the Best Supporting Actor award at the Manila Film Festival, actor ALBERT MARTINEZ concentrated on making this year's Film Academy Awards a red carpet affair, Oscar-style. A quick quiet round of golf, however, rounds out busy Albert, who considers SMART GOLD an important tool for his day-to-day business.

SMART Gold offers the widest network coverage and the widest selection of monthly plans with free calls and free text. Subscribers enjoy the latest handsets and many value-added services.

A star in a million indeed is CHRISTIAN BAUTISTA, who, along with JENNY HERNANDEZ, can be seen in the latest SMART commercial, singing in a park for SMART CALLER RINGTUNES. Christian, of course, is considered the Josh Groban of the Philippines, while Jenny was first seen dancing to a SMART celfone's ringtune. With her new album "In The Mood For Love" out now, though, she can now dance to her own songs.

SMART Caller RingTunes lets you express yourself to your callers even before you answer your celfone. Customize ring back tones with the latest tunes or greetings from your favorite artists,

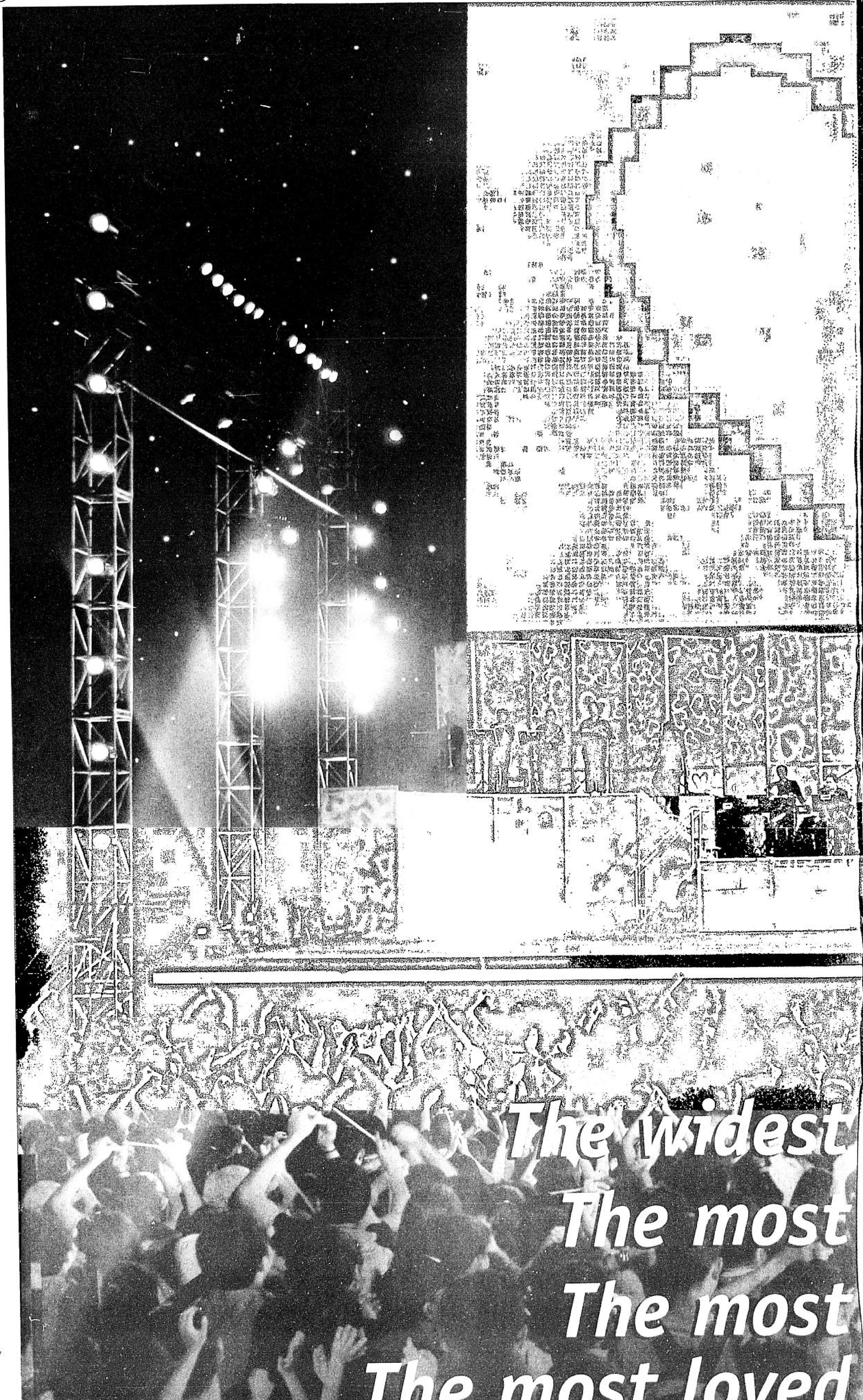
Oh yes, it's JOHNNY LITTON, in his requisite coat and tie, ever the perfect party host with JOYCE JIMENEZ, herself busy with her signature lingerie line-- Private Joyce. For both of them, there's nothing like *SMART INFINITY* to provide premium celfone service and unparalleled service and content.

SMART provides each SMART Infinity subscriber a dedicated Infinity Account Manager, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. International SOS and concierge service is available around the world, alongside automatic roaming capabilities. Top of the line handsets are given free with every subscription, and are upgraded regularly.

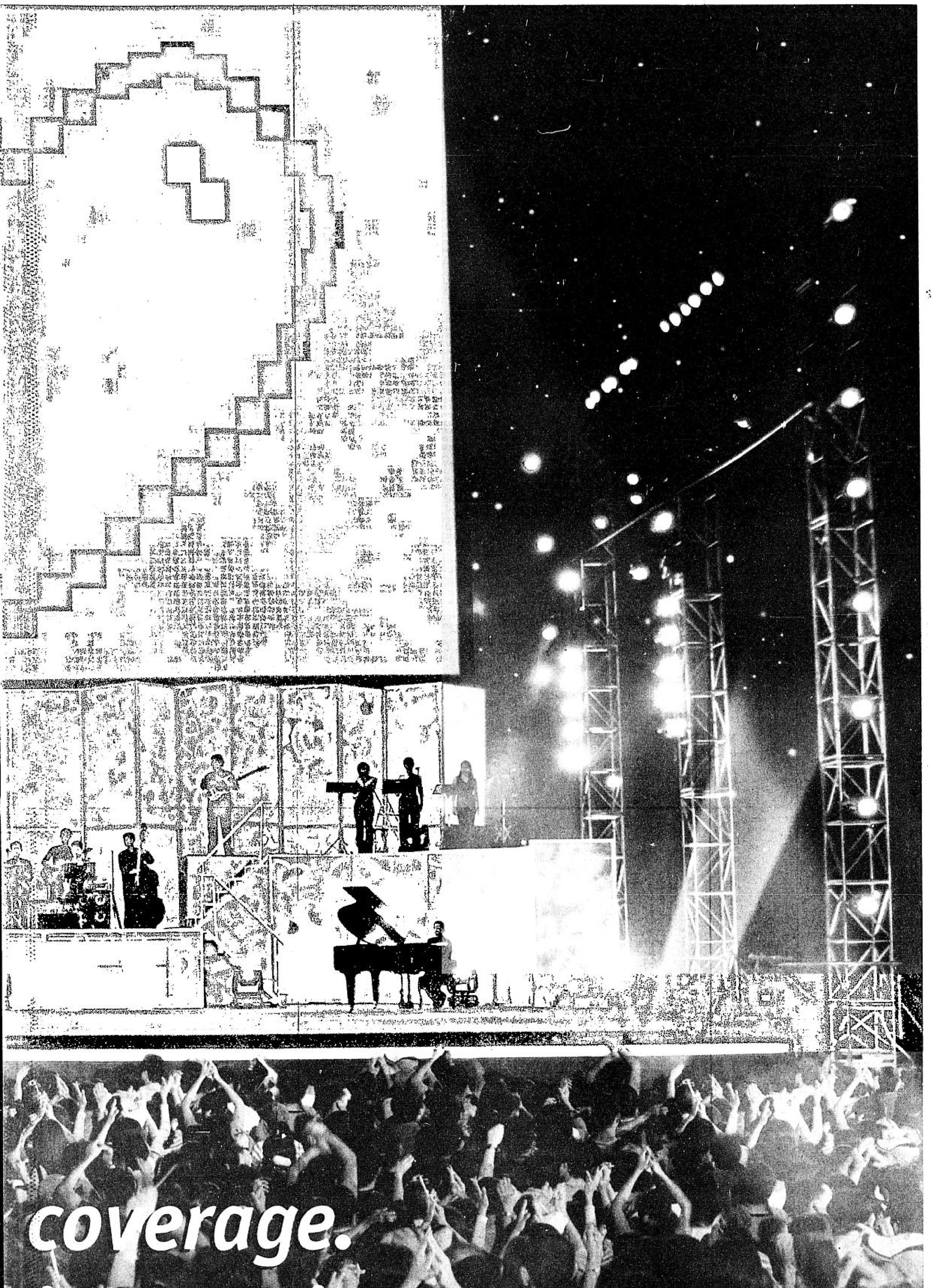
With over 17 million subscribers enjoying the most innovations and the widest coverage, it's no wonder SMART is the most loved wireless service.

I ♥ SMART

Simply Amazing!

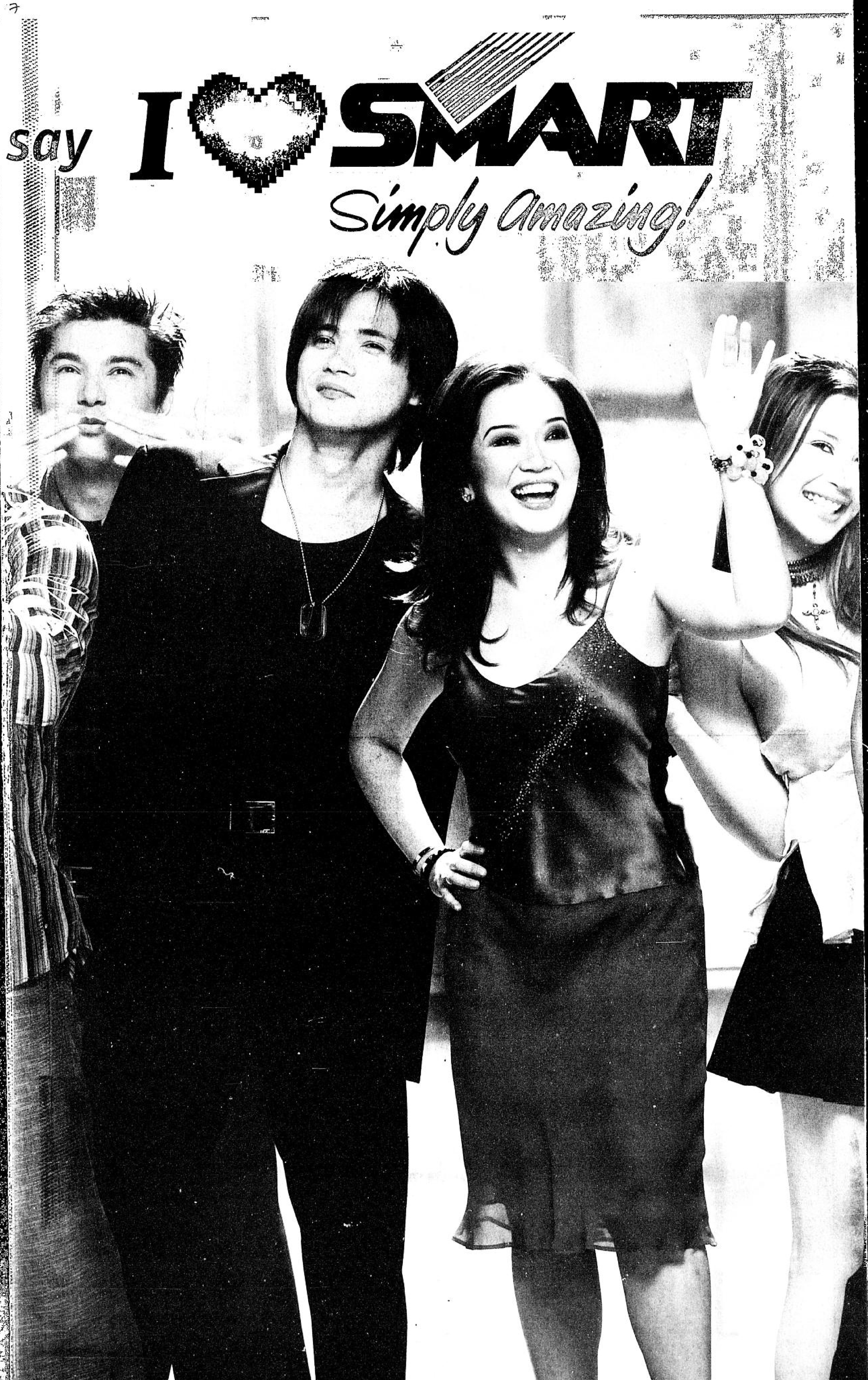


The widest
The most
The most
The most loved


coverage.
innovations.
subscribers.
wireless service.

6

More and more people


say I ♥ SMART
Simply amazing!

INQUIRER

JOB Market

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2004
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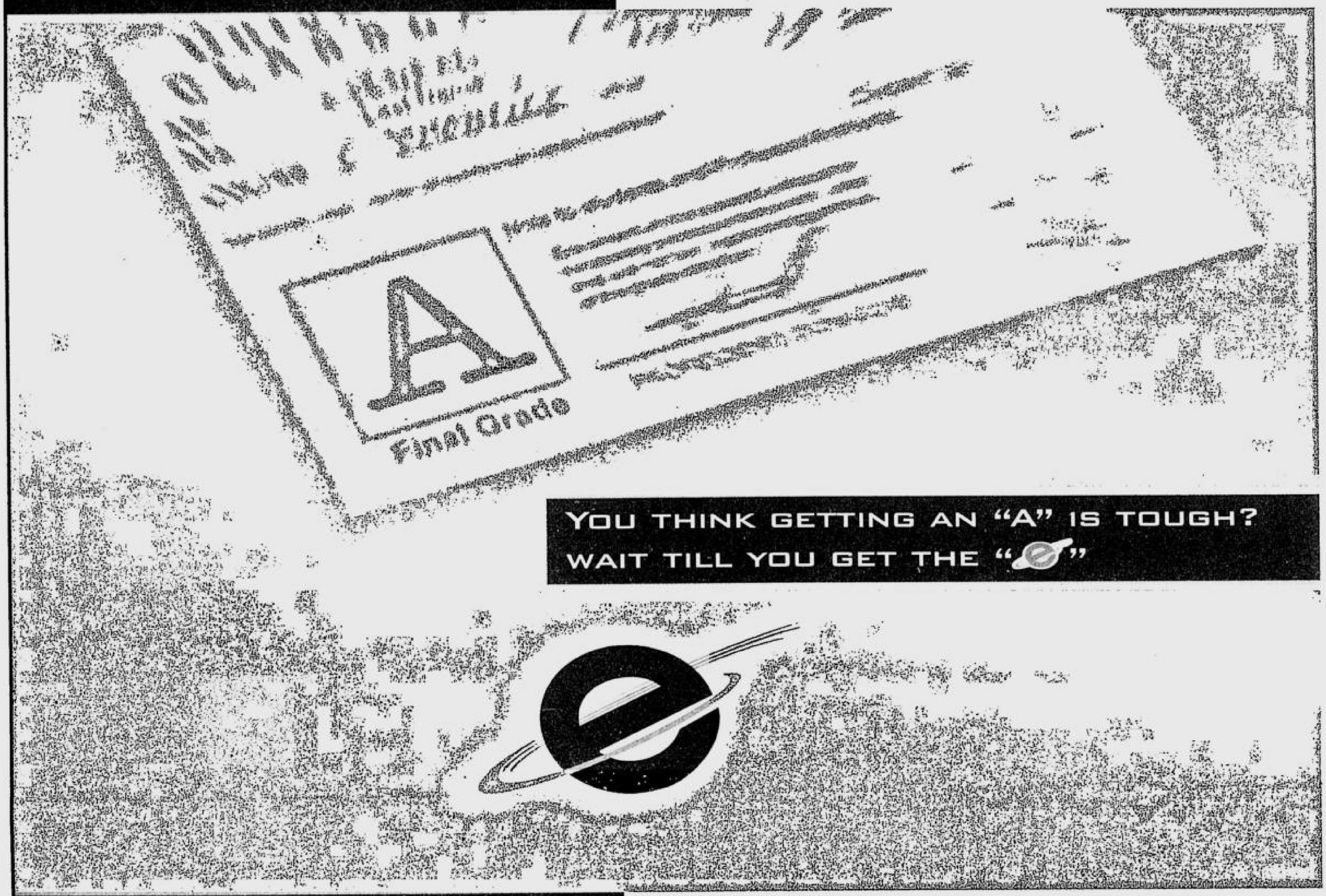
A
Final Grade
YOU THINK GETTING AN "A" IS TOUGH?
WAIT TILL YOU GET THE "e"

REMEMBER WHAT YOU HAD TO GO THROUGH TO GET AN "A"? WELL, GETTING THE "e" IS LIKE THAT. ONLY TOUGHER.

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Best of all, you get to work with the industry's best. This experience is simply incomparable.

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Industry-leading Employee Satisfaction Rating
Best in Class in People & Career Development with over 500 leaders & officers developed
Leader and Innovator in Compensation & Benefits
Truly a Great Place to Work

MANILA CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

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- Financial Analyst
- Internal Audit Manager

IT
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- Business Analyst
- Telecoms Specialist
- Data Network Specialist
- Junior Helpdesk Associate

OPERATIONS
- Directors
- Team Leaders
- Quality Assurance Associates
- Technical Support Representatives
- Customer Service Associates
- Inbound/Outbound Sales Associates
- Multilingual Representatives

SUPPORT
- Administrative Assistant

PROCUREMENT & LOGISTICS
- Procurement Specialist for IT

CORPORATE SECURITY OFFICE
- Corporate Security Officer
- Business Continuity Management Officer

GROWTH
- Project Manager for Program Implementation
- Project Manager for Site Expansion
- Corporate Security Manager

CORPORATE HUMAN RESOURCE
- Compensation & Benefits Manager
- Recruiting Specialists
- Frontdesk Associate
- Employee Relations Officer

CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT GROUP
- Leadership Recruiting Manager
- Sr. OD Officer Leadership Trainer
- OD Associates / Specialists

CEBU CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

FINANCE
- Finance/Accounting Staff
- Administrative Staff
- Facilities Officer

HUMAN RESOURCE
- HR Manager
- Recruiting Team Leader
- Recruiting Officers
- Recruiting Specialists
- Payroll Specialist
- C&B Specialist

OPERATIONS
- Shift Managers
- Team Leaders
  (Sales, Tech Support & Order Fulfillment)
- Technical Support Representatives
- Inbound/Outbound Sales Associates
- Order Fulfillment Specialists
- Customer Service Associates
- Quality Assurance Team Leaders
- Quality Assurance Associates

CORPORATE HUMAN RESOURCE
- Front Desk Associate

IT
- IT Manager
- Telecoms Specialist
- Computer System Specialist

ORGANIZATIONAL DEV'T
- Performance Management System Officers
- Career Development Officers
- Sr. Behavioral Trainers
- Sr. Leadership Trainers
- OD Associates

CORPORATE FOUNDATION TRAINING
- Training Manager
- Speech Trainer

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION
- Corporate Communication Officer
- Corporate Communication Specialist

CORPORATE SECURITY OFFICE
- Corporate Security Officer
- Business Continuity Management Officer

We offer a relocation package to those willing to be re-assigned from Manila to Cebu and vice-versa.

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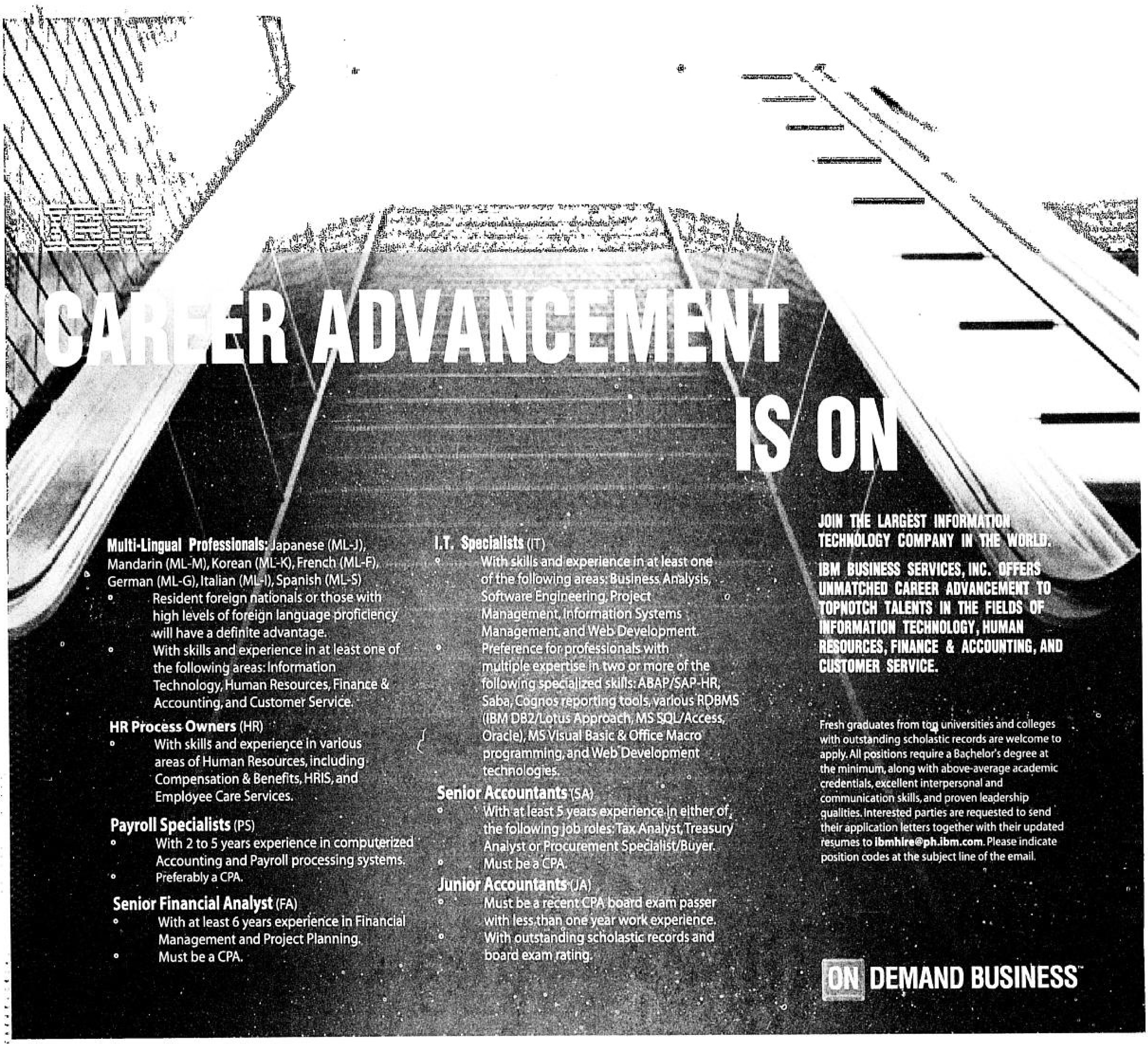
  Manila: (02) 580-6530
  Cebu: (032) 415-8061 to 66
- **Visit** us for pre-employment screening —
  Eastwood Office: 20/F CyberOne Building,
  Eastwood City Bagumbayan,
  Quezon City
  Cebu Office: U-308 Keppel Building
  Samar Loop, Cebu City
- **E-mail** your resume to —
  Manila: recruiting@etelecare.com
  Cebu: ceburecruiting@etelecare.com
  or www.etelecare.com
- **Fax** your resume to —
  Manila (02) 687-4841
  Cebu (032) 415-8061



Multi-Lingual Professionals: Japanese (ML-J), Mandarin (ML-M), Korean (ML-K), French (ML-F), German (ML-G), Italian (ML-I), Spanish (ML-S)
- Resident foreign nationals or those with high levels of foreign language proficiency will have a definite advantage.
- With skills and experience in at least one of the following areas: Information Technology, Human Resources, Finance & Accounting, and Customer Service.

HR Process Owners (HR)
- With skills and experience in various areas of Human Resources, including Compensation & Benefits, HRIS, and Employee Care Services.

Payroll Specialists (PS)
- With 2 to 5 years experience in computerized Accounting and Payroll processing systems.
- Preferably a CPA.

Senior Financial Analyst (FA)
- With at least 6 years experience in Financial Management and Project Planning.
- Must be a CPA.

I.T. Specialists (IT)
- With skills and experience in at least one of the following areas: Business Analysis, Software Engineering, Project Management, Information Systems Management, and Web Development.
- Preference for professionals with multiple expertise in two or more of the following specialized skills: ABAP/SAP-HR, Saba, Cognos reporting tools, various RDBMS (IBM DB2/Lotus Approach, MS SQL/Access, Oracle), MS Visual Basic & Office Macro programming, and Web Development technologies.

Senior Accountants (SA)
- With at least 5 years experience in either of the following job roles: Tax Analyst, Treasury Analyst or Procurement Specialist/Buyer.
- Must be a CPA.

Junior Accountants (JA)
- Must be a recent CPA board exam passer with less than one year work experience.
- With outstanding scholastic records and board exam rating.

JOIN THE LARGEST INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMPANY IN THE WORLD.

IBM BUSINESS SERVICES, INC. OFFERS UNMATCHED CAREER ADVANCEMENT TO TOPNOTCH TALENTS IN THE FIELDS OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE & ACCOUNTING, AND CUSTOMER SERVICE.

Fresh graduates from top universities and colleges with outstanding scholastic records are welcome to apply. All positions require a Bachelor's degree at the minimum, along with above-average academic credentials, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, and proven leadership qualities. Interested parties are requested to send their application letters together with their updated resumes to **ibmhire@ph.ibm.com**. Please indicate position codes at the subject line of the email.

ON DEMAND BUSINESS™

The League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) is executing a component under a Japanese Grant for the Preparation of the City Development and Investment Project (CDIP), an investment program to finance priority projects of CDS cities. This component shall focus on three main activities: a) enhancing the capital investment planning (CIP) component of the city development strategy process (CDS); b) piloting the new CDS with the enhanced CIP component; and c) supporting the LCP Mayor's Consultative Committee for the institutionalization of CDS in the Philippines. It is a 12-month project that will be administered by the LCP through a Project Management Team.

The LCP is looking for qualified professionals to comprise the Project Team on a full-time basis:

1. **Finance Specialist**
   - Responsibility: To develop and implement a business plan for improving the capital investment planning of CDS cities, linking priority programs and projects with financing mechanisms.
   - Activities: develop a business plan for improving capital investment planning of cities, provide technical assistance to cities, establish a network of financial advisors
   - Qualifications: BS BA/PA specializing in finance; At least 2 years work experience in the local finance industry; knowledge of LGU operations and financing framework; understanding of ODA projects and implementation; technical writing skills;
2. **Knowledge Manager**
   - Responsibility: To develop and implement an effective KM strategy that will capture the lessons learned in the implementation of the project, disseminate the outputs to the target audience, and expand the CDS Knowledge Sharing Network.
   - Activities: develop and implement a knowledge sharing strategy for disseminating outputs from the project; establish networks/partnerships; establish strong relations with the media; maintain and enhance the existing knowledge sharing platform
   - Qualifications: BS in Journalism/Communications/Marketing and/or experience in Public Relations; at least 2 years progressive work experience in features and/or technical writing and knowledge management work, some experience in website and data management; excellent communication skills, written and oral; demonstrated media contacts
3. **Technical Assistant**
   - Responsibility: To support the National Coordinator and the Project Management Team in implementing the project components.
   - Activities: manage the day-to-day operations in the project office; maintain communications with partners and participating cities; organize and coordinate meetings, forums, workshops, etc., including logistical arrangements
   - Qualifications: BS in Management or other related expertise; at least 2 years work experience in office and events management; good communication skills; established contacts in media, public and private sectors

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR CV NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 1, 2004 TO:

The President, League of Cities of the Philippines
LCP Building Lemery corner Estrada Sts., Manila
Or fax to: (02) 521-6461 local 102 or e-mail to secretariat@lcp.org.ph

---

An expanding multi-million manufacturing company is in need of:

SALES OFFICERS

- Female
- Graduate of any BS degree course
- At least two (2) years selling & marketing experience
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Must have good PR and interpersonal skills
- Willing to travel and willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines and in Southeast Asia
- Must have a valid driver's license

Interested applicants may send their application letter, resumé, transcript of records and recent 2x2 picture not later than November 15, 2004 to the following offices:

Sr. Manager, HRM
P.O. Box 3321
MCPO Makati City

MR. RAZOLAND B. ROULLO
Sr. Manager, HRM
LIDE, Isabel, Leyte

MR. WALTER DELA CRUZ
c/o Starlite Maritime
Currimao Port, Pias Currimao

MR. ROLANDO VENEZUELA
c/o Agrofactors Warehouse
Pennsylvania Avenue,
Poro, La Union

MR. ROWENS CALIZO
Casambalangan
Port Irene, Sta. Ana, Cagayan

MR. JOSEPH LIM
Circimferential Road,
Lam-an, Ozamis City

MR. ERICK AGULTO
c/o FM Castillo, Tawiran
Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro

MR. ELMER TANAEL
c/o Naga Alta,
Door No. 3, Abilay Bldg.
Del Rosario, Naga City

MR. ARNOLD SAURO
c/o BM Road Barrio San Pedro
Puerto Princesa, Palawan

MR. RAMESES CABALLO
Rm. 9 Madrigal Bldg.
Madrigal Comp.,
211 Legaspi Ext. Cebu City

MR. KENNETH ADARNE
c/o FM Castillo
corner Lapu-lapu & Rizal St.
San Jose, Occidental Mindoro

MR. ROY TABINO
Reclamation Area, BREDCO 4
Bacolod City

Mr. NIEL TAHUMAS
Muelle Loney St.,
Port Area, Iloilo City

MR. VIC DABLO
Kibulda Gracia
Tagolcan, Misamis Oriental

MR. DOUGLAS DIEZ
PB COM (Ledesma) Bldg.
Port Area, Km. 10,
Sasa Davao City

MR. RICHARD LAURENTE
Ferchemx Warehouse Park
Saguil Road New Bohol
Calumpang, General Santos City

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

1 FULL TIME SPEECHWRITER

Qualifications:
- Exemplary writing skills
- Computer literate
- Not over 30 yrs old with Police & NBI Clearance
- Willing to work OT

APPLY PERSONALLY AT:

RESEARCH & DOCUMENTATION BRANCH (RDB)
Office of the Secretary Joint Staff AFP
3rd Flr., GHQ bldg., Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City

* BRING A COPY OF YOUR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ & COPIES OF PREVIOUS COMPOSITIONS.

For inquiries, call Tel. No. 9117607 (Ask for Randy Romonto)

STRESS-AWAY INTERNATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES
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BACOOR, CAVITE

Is in need of the following staff:

SUPERVISORS (Airport Outlets)
- Female; 25-30 y/o; w/ pleasing personality
- College Grad.; Willing to go on shifting schedule
- Preferably w/ work experience
- Res. of Pasay, Parañaque & nearby areas

MASSAGE THERAPISTS (Airport Outlets)
- Female; 20-28 y/o; w/ pleasing personality
- Pref. PT grad. but not necessary
- Willing to go on shifting or straight schedule
- Pref. w/ exp. but not necessary
- Res. of Pasay, Parañaque & nearby areas

Applicants may apply in person or send resume with picture at the above address or e-mail us at stressawayinternational@yahoo.com

Join the winning team

MISYS

Misys Wholesale Banking Systems is a trusted provider of innovative technology solutions. Over 1,300 employees in 30 offices around the world have built up the necessary domain expertise to deliver world-class solutions with an understanding of local requirements. Misys Wholesale Banking Systems' staff are committed to developing and supporting a product family that embraces trade finance, international banking, treasury capital markets, confirmation matching, continuous linked settlement (CIS), e-banking, middleware and financial messaging. We offer a wide range of opportunities across the globe in our Wholesale Banking business.

Currently we are looking to recruit top caliber professionals to fill the following positions:

ANALYST/PROGRAMMERS (JAVA)

Candidates must be graduates of IT-related course with at least 2 years experience in relevant programming language (Java/J2EE). The following are key skills and characteristics that give the candidate a definite advantage:

- Websphere Application Server
- Web development (HTML, JavaScript)
- Knowledge and experience in XML, XSL, SQL, RDBMS (relational DB), JMS, JavaScript, CSS
- Design experience – UML, database modeling, J2EE design patterns

QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM TESTERS

Candidates must be graduates of IT or Finance related course with at least 1-3 years experience of system software testing and/or quality assurance gained in a software development or banking environment with experience of testing methodologies gained in a development team. Definite advantage is market/business knowledge in any of the following: Treasury and Capital Markets, Trade Finance and International Banking and product knowledge in OPICS, Midas or Trade Innovation.

DATABASE ADMINISTRATORS

Candidates must be graduates of IT-related course with at least 5 years experience in database administration, data modeling experience with tools such as ERWin. DB2 experience specifically on the IBM iSeries is an advantage.

OBJECT ORIENTED APPLICATION DEVELOPERS

Candidates must be graduates of an IT-related course with excellent debugging and code reading skills and at least 2 years experience in object-oriented programming and design, user interface design, relational databases, transaction processing, database reporting such as Crystal Reports and banking.

C++ DEVELOPERS

Candidates must be graduates of IT-related course with excellent debugging and PC skills. Relevant experience for these is Visual C++, C, Java, ODBC, network/database administration, particularly DB2 and Oracle, MQ/Series, SOAP, tcp/ip, Windows and PC administration, iSeries.

PROJECT MANAGERS

Candidates must have at least 7 years experience of software development and has a business understanding related to banking and its use of software solutions and technology. Candidates must be able to deliver projects on time, manage all development-related activities, communicate project plans and ensure that effective project control are in line with QA processes. Preference will be given to those with experience in banking applications.

CONTACT CENTER AGENTS and TEAM LEADERS

Candidates must have at least 2 years experience of call handling and people management in a call center environment, preferably related to financial products or software with excellent oral and written communication skills. Has commitment to client satisfaction and pro-active call management and possesses skills in using Microsoft Excel, Word, Explorer and Outlook. Ability to speak at least 2 languages (Mandarin, French, German, English, Japanese, Bahasa, Spanish) is an advantage. Willing to work on shifts.

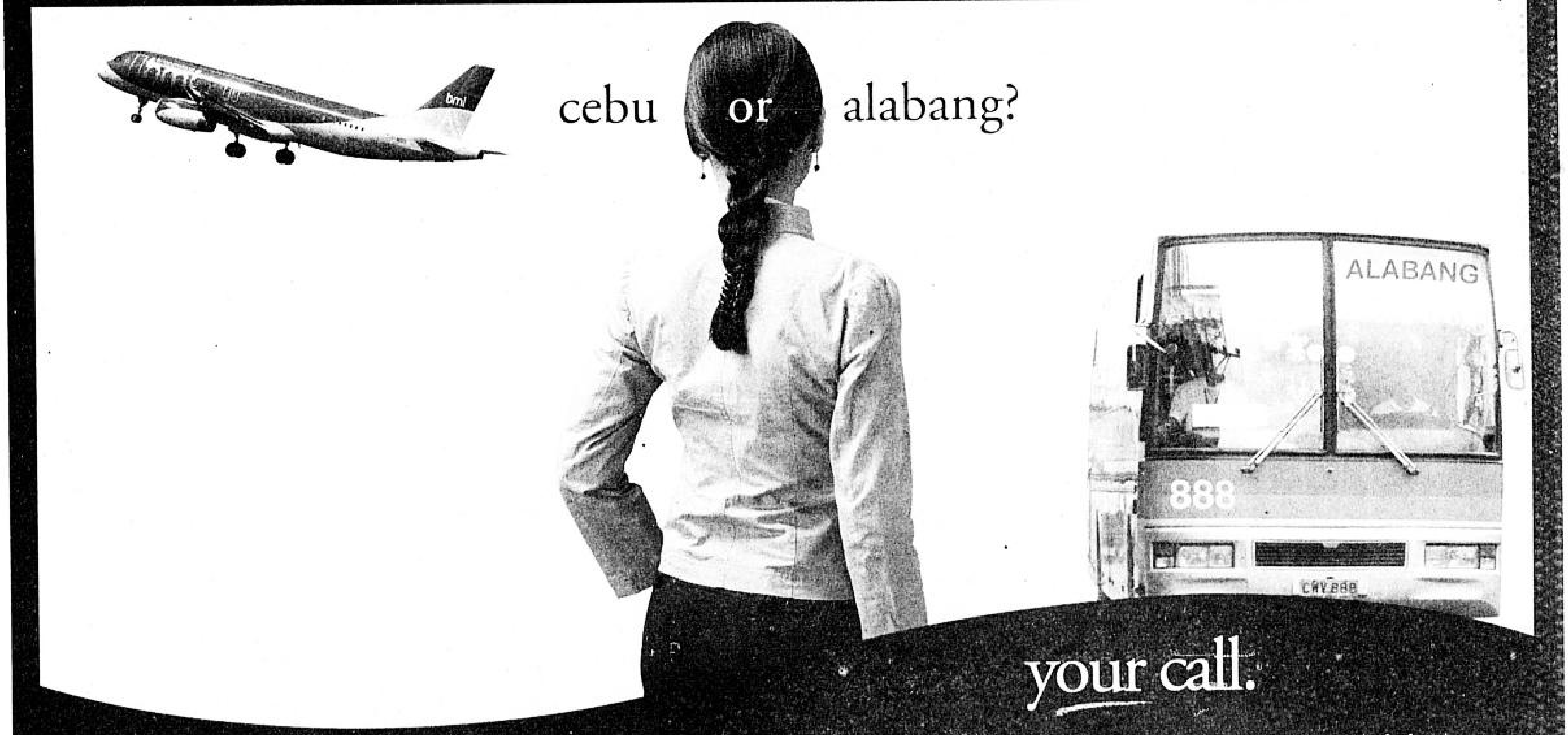
HELPDESK ANALYSTS

Candidates must have at least 5 years experience of financial products or software in a support environment and/or 2 years of relevant banking experience. Candidates must have excellent understanding and practical expertise in Misys products (OPICS, Midas, Trade Finance) to provide clients with solutions for problem analysis and diagnosis. Required skills are knowledge of product implementation, testing and support methodologies of Misys products and strong commitment to client satisfaction.

If you are qualified in any of our requirements,
e-mail your detailed resume to **hrd.wholesale@misys.com**
specifying the position you are applying for.

Visit our website: www.misys.com

PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT APPLY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your call.

Our contact centers in Alabang and Cebu have opportunities for you so you don't have to be far from home. Wherever you are, the global leader in customer care services continues to empower you with your choice.

Be part of the Convergys experience NOW and apply for the following positions:

CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES

TEAM LEADERS
- 2 to 3 years supervisory experience in a customer service-related organization
- Excellent customer-service/support skills, ability to work well under pressure, professional demeanor and strong written and oral communication skills
- Ability to guide individuals toward goal achievement using negotiation, teamwork/collaboration, motivation and staff development skills including the ability to act as a role model within the organization

Visit our offices Monday – Friday from 9:00am to 5:00 pm at the following centers:

Cebu: 4th Floor Eduardo Aboitiz Development Studies Center (EADSC), 35 Lopez Jaena St., Cebu City
Alabang: Blk 44 Northgate Cyberzone, Muntinlupa City

Ortigas: 24th floor, Robinsons Equitable,Tower, #4 ADB Avenue corner Poveda Street, Ortigas Center
Makati: 7th floor, Tower 2, The Enterprise Center, 6766 Ayala Avenue, Makati City 1200

We offer an attractive relocation assistance to qualified candidates who will be based in Cebu.

RECRUITMENT HOTLINES:

Manila: 857-5560

Provincial: 1-800-10CVG HIRE
(PLDT lines only)

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We are a multi-national company, operating in the various parts of the Philippines and servicing clients in Europe and United States of America. We are inviting high-level and talented individual who will join us to handle the tasks and responsibilities as stated below:

For Hiring

10 Sr. Production Managers (PM level)

based on the following requirements:

- Extensive management experience of 3-5 years, of which are into content supply chain operations
- Willing to be assigned/travel in any of our production facilities
- Experienced in cross-cultural/global business operations
- Excellent communication skills (oral & written)
- Background/knowledge on quality management systems

Interested applicants are requested to e-mail to:
seniorpm_04@yahoo.com

CREWASIA

QUALITY CREW
FOR
PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL MEGA YACHTS

CHIEF OFFICER

At least 2nd Mate license and has already served as 2nd mate; tender driving experience

2nd MATE

Minimum of 3rd Mates license; able to work with a small team of deckhands under the direction of the 1st mate; with good all around navigational and deckwork skills

CHIEF ENGINEER

At least 2nd Engr. License. Apart from experience with high speed marine diesels; must have good all around experience of engine room system plus maintenance of out board engines

ASST. ENGINEER

At least 3rd engineer license. Apart from experience with high speed marine diesels must have good all around experence of all yachts systems plus maintenance of out board engines

BOSUN

Must be experienced in running a disciplined Filipino deck crew

CHEFS

Experience in cruise liners or mega yachts; able to cook and present European, Western. Asian cuisine to the highest standards. Able to run a small well fitted galley to the cleanest standard.

LAUNDRYMAN/WOMAN

Experience in all types of laundry operation.

CHIEF STEWARD

A team leader with initiative; with pleasing personality and able to work under pressure.

STEWARD/ESS

Candidates should be well versed in quality housekeeping skills. With pleasing personality and able to work under pressure

DECKHANDS (AB & OS)

At least 2 years sea experience and used to working to the highest detail.

NURSE

Licensed and experienced nurse in crisis and emergency procedures

IMPORTANT The following applies as basic qualification for all positions:

- Fluent in conversational English
- Preferably with mega yacht/cruise liner experience
- All positions are for non smokers only
- Must have certificate of competency (COC)
- Must be in possession of all necessary valid documents
- Not more than 35 years old
- Well presented and personable
- Excellent salary and conditions for those who meet our exacting standards

Suite 407, Cebu Holdings Center, Cardinal Rosales Avenue,
Cebu Business Park, Cebu City, Philippines
Tel. No.: ++63-32-2321732; Fax: ++63-32-2325180
E-mail: crewasia@info.com.ph
Website: www.crewasia.ph

POEA LICENSE NO.: POEA 220-SB-043004-R

FIELD SALESMEN

We are a consumer goods company looking for highly-motivated sales people to cover areas in Metro Manila and Central Luzon. College degree is required; prior or current sales experience, e.g. detailmen/route salesmen, will be a big advantage. We offer competitive pay and meaningful performance incentives. A company-owned vehicle will be provided. Hence, a valid driver's license is required from applicants.

If interested, you may send your resumé with picture to **Fax No. 848-1179** or **email mikhail0268@yahoo.com**. Address to Marketing Manager, Ref: Field Salesman

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jartekresearchservices

is a growing company that performs marketing & product research services for an American-based tool company

We are looking for people with these qualities:

- self-reliant, versatile multi-tasker
- not the corporate type
- street smart & practical
- able to see the big picture
- interested in machinery & mechanical products
- have excellent written & spoken English communication skills
- age range of 21-26 years old with a college degree

We have the following positions open:

Technical Writer

with strong mechanical know-how aptitude, & interest in machinery; ability to work independently & meet strict deadlines; engineering degree or background, preferably Mechanical or Industrial Design

Website Developer / Internet Sales

with strong knowledge & experience in Linux, PostgreSQL database, Informix database, Perl/PHP programming experience, Standard graphic design software & PC & Apple (MAC) operations; can develop materials for the website; should maintain & develop e-commerce applications, databases, access to databases; & with aggressive sales orientation.

If you think, you're the one ...
Send your comprehensive resume with a recent picture to **resume.ph@smithy.com**

AFS Intercultural Programs Philippines

We are a member of AFS Intercultural Programs, Inc., the oldest and most prestigious international organization engaged in multicultural exchanges among 80 countries. We have an immediate opening for:

1 PROGRAM COORDINATOR

who will be responsible for implementing our hosting and sending programs. The job involves close coordination with counterpart staff at AFS parnter offices around the world, working with government agencies and schools, extensive interactions with Filipino and foreign students, AFS returnees and volunteers, and local and international travels.

We are looking for a person who:

- Speaks and writes well in English.
- Works well with other people - both young and old.
- Is proficient in M.S. Word, Excel and Powerpoint. (Knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and PageMaker is an advantage).
- Works with minimal supervision, is resourceful and hard working.
- Has a positive outlook in life.
- Has a college degree preferably in business, psychology or mass communication.

The deadline for submission of application is on November 2, 2004. Please send your application letter, resumé and 1 passport size picture electronically to **info@arfpl.org** or by courier to: AFS Returnees Foundation Phil., Inc., 2/F U.P. I.S.S.I. Blg., Jacinto St., Diliman, Quezon city 1101. Tel. No. 928-3432

GREENPEACE

Greenpeace one of the world's most respected environmental organizations has vacancies for the two senior management positions in its Bangkok office. Greenpeace is a global environmental organization which works from the principle of 'bearing witness' - drawing attention and proposing solutions to the abuse and destruction of natural ecosystems, and working to ensure the world is a better place to live in for future generations.

1. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** (permanent full-time)
2. **CAMPAIGNS DIRECTOR** (permanent full-time)

APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR BOTH POSITIONS: All applicants must apply as follows:

1. Letter of introduction, with explanation about why you are qualified for the position.
2. Which position(s) you are applying for. If applying for more than one position you must state this.
3. Resume/Curriculum Vitae setting out skills and experience for the position for which you are applying
4. Your application must address the specific essential skills and experience required for each position, as listed below.
5. Your application must be typed and sent via email

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This is the senior management position within Greenpeace Southeast Asia and reports directly to the board of management. The position is based in Bangkok but extensive travel will be required.

Essential skills and qualifications:

- Proven leadership ability and the ability to develop and articulate a clear vision and achievable goals for Greenpeace Southeast Asia.
- The ability to work with a wide range of individuals from diverse backgrounds and cultures and to manage them effectively as part of a team
- Excellent knowledge of global and regional politics and institutions and understanding of the strategies needed to influence them, as well as demonstrated experience in working internationally.
- Proven management, financial and human resource experience in a comparable organisation.
- Very strong written and verbal communication skills in both written and spoken English
- An understanding of communications and marketing strategies necessary to build a genuinely regional organisation.

Preferred skills and qualifications:

- Knowledge of all the main campaigns issues relevant to Greenpeace SEA
- Experience in managing organizational growth and development in new regions.
- Strong written and spoken Thai and/or other regional languages.
- Experience in fundraising, especially in the area of major donor funding raising

CAMPAIGNS DIRECTOR

This person will be responsible for the management and coordination of a team of 16 campaigners and support staff based in Thailand, the Philippines and Indonesia. The position is based in Bangkok but extensive travel will be required.

Essential skills and qualifications:

- Very strong management and organizational skills with a focus on the ability to manage and coordinate a range of staff working on different issues in different regions and political climates.
- Direct and proven experience in developing and running campaigns including direct action, media, and political campaigning.
- Excellent strategic skills in analyzing and planning strategies and overseeing their implementation.
- Leadership skills including the ability to manage a diverse team of individuals and the ability to take necessary decisions based on clear and concise evaluation of the information relevant to that decision.
- Ability to build a strong team spirit and to direct and channel that team to deliver effective outcomes.
- Broad knowledge of energy, GE, toxics and forests issues within the SEA region
- Able to communicate effectively in both written and spoken English.

Preferred skills and experience

- Good spoken Thai. Other regional or international languages an advantage.
- Experience in key program areas: public speaking, training, strategic planning and organizing people around an issue.
- Experience in integrating campaign and fund raising strategies.

Send your application letter in English with CV, photo and expected salary directly to Chris Harris, Greenpeace SEA, Tel: 02 272 7100, Fax: 02 271 4342, **Email: chris.harris@th.greenpeace.org.**

(Deadline for both position: November 19, 2004, 5pm)

WANTED

COFFEE BARISTAS

For Our Coffee Shop soon to open at Festival Supermall, Alabang

We're a dynamic and aggressive group who values our teams' advancement both in career and personal development.

We're looking for INDIVIDUALS who are team players and would be part of the realization of the company's visions.

WE OFFER GOOD COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS.

The requirements of the candidate will be the following:

- Male or Female, not more than 30 years old
- At least one year experience in coffee mixing/bartending
- Minimum of two years college education
- With good communication skills
- With pleasing personality
- Available for full time position

Please send or bring your bio-data with 2" x 2" ID picture to:

MICHELLE J. GUILLERMO
MJG Holdings, Inc.
OKPHIL Building, 1301 Estrada St.
Cor. Osmeña Highway, Manila, Philippines
Or send via-email to: okphil@pworld.net.ph

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sportshouse

Is in need of SPORTS ACTIVE and DYNAMIC individuals for the following positions:

Store Supervisors / Sales Demos / Cashiers

Store Supervisor:		
	Male	at least 5'6" and College Graduate
	Female	at least 5'3" and College Graduate
Sales Demo:		
	Male	at least 5'6" and 3rd year college level
	Female	at least 5'3" and 3rd year college level
Cashier:		
	Female	at least 5'3" and 3rd year college level

Please send your resumé with 2 x 2 picture at:
Sportshouse Training Department
c/o Lino's Restaurant, 3rd Floor,
Ali Mall, Cubao, Quezon City

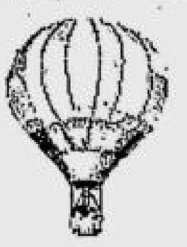
Experience will be an advantage

We will only reply to qualified applicants. Previous applicants need not apply.

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY

College Graduate • Pleasing Personality • Computer Literate • Start at P6,600 a month

CALL VINA or JOYCE AT 634-6487 to 89



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TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

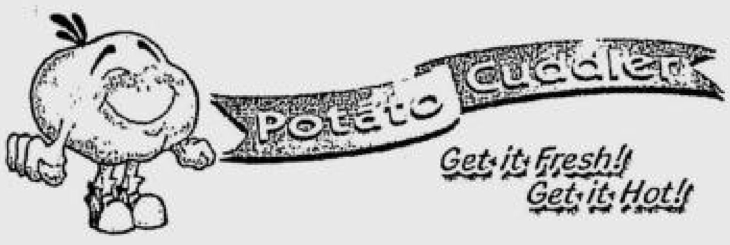
Position	Qualification
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE (For Manila & QC Campuses)	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree and an aligned Master's/ Doctorate Degree in Education or Engineering, with an appropriate Professional License, preferably with 5 years of satisfactory teaching experience in the tertiary level, have at least 3 years of satisfactory administrative/managerial experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate, full time
CHAIR, CIVIL & SANITARY ENGINEERING DEPT. (For Manila Campus)	Holder of an appropriate Master's Degree, with appropriate Professional License, preferably with at least 3 years of satisfactory teaching experience and 2 years of satisfactory managerial experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate
CHAIR, INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING DEPT. (For Manila & QC Campuses)	Holder of an appropriate Master's Degree, preferably with at least 3 years of satisfactory teaching experience and 2 years of satisfactory managerial experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate
CHAIR, PHYSICAL EDUCATION (For QC Campus)	Holder of an appropriate Master's Degree, preferably with at least 3 years of satisfactory teaching experience and 2 years of satisfactory managerial experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate
CHAIR, MARINE ENGINEERING DEPT. (For Manila Campus)	Holder of an appropriate Master's Degree and with appropriate Professional License, with shipboard experience, preferably with at least 3 years of satisfactory teaching experience and 2 years of satisfactory managerial experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate, full time
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICER (For Manila Campus)	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in any computer related program, have at least three (3) years of satisfactory managerial experience, have enough background in systems, analysis and design and other related work, proficient in oral and written communication, of good moral character
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT (For QC Campus)	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree and an aligned Master's Degree in Engineering or Education, with an appropriate Professional License, with experience as thesis adviser, proficient in editing researches, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR (For QC Campus)	Holder of a Bachelor's Degree and an aligned Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling or Psychology, preferably with 1 year related work experience, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate

Position	Qualification
FACULTY MEMBERS (For Manila & QC Campuses) Accountancy Architecture Chemical Engineering Civil & Sanitary Engineering Computer Engineering Computer Science Electrical Engineering Electronics & Communications Engineering English Filipino Industrial Engineering Marine Engineering Marine Transportation Mathematics & Physics Mechanical Engineering Physical Education Social Sciences	Holder of an appropriate Bachelor's Degree, with required license, with Master's Degree along undergraduate studies & field of specialization, of good moral character, proficient in oral & written communication, computer literate, full time/part time
NETWORK SPECIALIST (For Manila Campus)	Holder of any Computer related Bachelor's Degree, has experience in Network Structure and design for voice/data, knowledge and experience in implementing ASP model is an advantage with technical documentation/web design skills, can operate and administer major networking operating system, can configure routers, knowledge and experience in check point administration, knowledge in wireless connection, with at least three (3) years related work experience, proficient in written & oral communication, of good moral character
PROGRAMMER (For Manila Campus)	Holder of a computer related Bachelor's Degree, has technical programming knowledge using PHP, ASP, Visual Basic and Oracle, knowledge in Office Suites (MS Office, Open Office.org), Operating Systems (Windows, Linux, Novell), Crystal Reports and Flash, working and development knowledge in relational databases (Oracle, SQL Server, PostgreSQL and MySQL), at least 1 year related work experience, proficient in oral & written communication, of good moral character, willing to render long hours of work
STAFF (For QC Campus)	Holder of a Bachelor Degree in Business/Computer related courses, of good moral character, proficient in oral and written communication, computer literate, female
DRIVER (For Manila & QC Campuses)	High School graduate with an active driver's license, knowledgeable in trouble shooting and car maintenance, with three (3) years work experience as driver, of good moral character

Interested parties who meet the above requirements may apply personally at the respective TIP offices with their resume, ID picture, transcript of records and other pertinent documents:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
Manila Campus
363 P. Casal St., Quiapo, Manila • Telephone No. 734-36-31
hrd.manila@tip.edu.ph

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
Quezon City Campus
938 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City • Telephone No. 913-58-52
hrd.qc@tip.edu.ph


Potato Corner
Get it Fresh!
Get it Hot!

OPERATIONS SUPERVISORS

Male or Female 22-30 y.o. , w/ at least 2 years experience in Fast Food chain, can work under pressure, with strong leadership qualities, proficient in written & oral communication.

ACCOUNTING OFFICER (CPA)

Female, 22-30 y.o. preferably w/ at least 1 year experience in accounting, HR related work, proficient in written and oral communications and has a strong computer knowledge.

OPERATIONS ASSISTANTS

Male 20-29 y.o. physically fit, with driver's license; preferably College level.

FRANCHISE SALES OFFICER

Male/Female, 20-35 y.o., experience in Insurance, Car, & Real estate Sales is an advantage.

BUSINESS DEVT. MANAGER

Male/female; 25-30 y.o.; preferably with experience in franchising; proficient in written and oral communication

Please bring your resume with 2x2 picture to:

2109 JOLLIBEE PLAZA, EMERALD AVENUE, ORTIGAS
CENTER, PASIG CITY, PHILIPPINES 1605
TEL NO. 632-0353 TELEFAX: 632-0126

For Immediate Employment
Join Us! A Leading Manufacturing Company

MANUFACTURING FOREMAN

- Graduate of any Engineering course
- With leadership qualities and hands-on experience in handling people
- At least 2 years experience in a manufacturing set-up
- Positive work attitude, trainable, flexible and hardworking
- Able to relate to any level in the organization (verbal & written)
- Knowledge in ISO standards a plus factor

HRD ASSISTANT

- BS Psychology/Behavioral Science course graduate, or its equivalent
- Female, 24-30 years of age
- Must have an exposure to all facets of HR job
- Experience in Industrial Relations matters is an advantage
- Good communication skills
- Able to compose correspondence
- Knowledge in ISO standard, a plus factor
- Computer literate, good interpersonal skills

SALES STAFF

- Graduate of any 4 year course
- Male/Female at least 25 years of age
- Computer literate, good communication skills
- Work experience in Sales Dept. a plus factor
- Trainable, flexible, with positive work attitude

ACCOUNTING STAFF

- BSBA major in Accounting, with good scholastic record
- At least 2 years experience in related field
- Female, 22-30 years of age, hardworking, well-versed in computers

Please send your Resumé, Transcript of Records,
2 x 2 picture to:

Code: QC 2004-35
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F St. Anthony's Bldg.
891 Aurora Blvd., cor Oxford St.
Cubao, Quezon City 1100
Email: dae-marcellana@yahoo.com

CIBI Information

CIBI Information Inc. is the leader in the business information service with affiliations worldwide. The company offers various services such as: Business Reports, Property Appraisals, Financial Analysis, Credit Risk Evaluation, Receivable Management, Business Education and the only on-line information service named Infonet System, and the publisher of the Philippines 5000 book magazine.

We are inviting dynamic and aggressive individuals who are willing to take the challenge of:

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

- BS Accountancy graduate, must be a CPA
- At least with 1-2 years related experience in General & Cost Accounting & Financial Analysis
- Can work with minimum supervision
- With good communication skills and interpersonal relationship
- Between 26-30 years old

(2) CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES (For MANILA & CEBU BRANCHES)

- Graduate of any 4-year course
- Can work with minimum supervision
- With good communication skills and interpersonal relationship
- Preferably with related working experience
- Between 25-29 years old

PURCHASING AND ADMIN. ASSISTANT

- BS Accountancy graduate
- At least with 1 year related working experience
- Can work under pressure and with minimum supervision
- With good communication skills and interpersonal relationship
- Good negotiation and analytical skills
- Between 25-29 years old

PROGRAMMERS

- BS in Computer Science/IT or any related courses
- Experienced in Visual Studio tools, C#, ASP, Net & PDF writing, Windows 2000, UNIX
- Good communication skills and interpersonal relationship
- At least with related working experience
- Between 25-29 years old

Interested applicants may apply personally or send their resume with 2x2 picture and Transcript of Records to Human Resources Dept. CIBI Information Center 3308 Zapote St., Cor Mascardo St. Makati City ☎8990015 loc 838 or email resume to: dvergara@cibi.net.ph or jedralin@cibi.net.ph. You may also apply on-line at www3.cibi.net.ph

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A NEW COMPANY IN MAKATI IS LOOKING FOR:

Position: JAVA DEVELOPERS

Description: object oriented development and programming with a concentration in java technologies unix, linux operating system (debian a plus) knowledge of user interface development including html, javascript, css, and related full knowledge of the j2ee platform, especially servlets, jsps, jstl apache jakarta framework including tomcat 4.x, struts 1.1, commons, and log4j or bridge technologies such as hibernate and spring exceptional understanding of jdbc and sql, including transaction management and query optimization mysql 4.0.x experience and knowledge of query restrictions that version implies ability to discuss binary search tree algorithms, thread-safe java collections searching, and optimization techniques experience: 2-5+ years software architecture and programming experience

Position: JAVA ARCHITECTS

Description: object oriented development and programming with a concentration in java technologies unix, linux operating system (debian a plus) knowledge of user interface development including html, javascript, css, and related full knowledge of the j2ee platform, especially servlets, jsps, jstl apache jakarta framework including tomcat 4.x, struts 1.1, commons, and log4j or bridge technologies such as hibernate and spring exceptional understanding of jdbc and sql, including transaction management and query optimization mysql 4.0.x experience and knowledge of query restrictions that version implies ability to discuss binary search tree algorithms, thread-safe java collections searching, and optimization techniques experience: 5-10+ years software architecture and programming experience.

Position: NETWORK ENGINEER/ SUPERIVISOR

Description: Must have the ability to design and coordinate a distributed network that will push over 2 gigabits a second over multiple data centers in multiple countries using load balancers, NT and Unix based servers and whatever other equipment is needed. The position will also require the recruiting and managing of the server and network administrators. This is for an existing company with existing high-bandwidth high-intensity mission critical web applications that wishes to leave their current hosting company and build their own network.

Position: FULLTIME LAWYER

Description: Well versed in contract and business law.
-Ecommerce experience a plus.
-Licensed Attorney
-Notary

Position: CSRs

Interested candidates may send their resumes to 17D Chatham House Valero Street Corner Rufino Street Salcedo Village Makati or to jobs@dollars.com

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UPLIFT Philippines Inc.

Urban Program for Livelihood Finance and Training

Hearts and hands touching lives through the years....

UPLIFT is a dynamic Non-Government Organization specialized in micro finance and capability building services operating in the Philippines since 1993. It has 2 programs servicing Caloocan, Manila, Bulacan and Quezon City. 98% of UPLIFT workers are coming from the communities where the program operates. The total number of staff deployed in the different programs now is 165 professionals working with a spirit of NGO and voluntarism. We are taking this opportunity therefore to invite you and be part of the current team..

HR Manager

MISSIONS
As a support to the operations, the HR manager will have to
1. Define the HR strategy in line with the overall strategy of the organization
2. Develop, produce the HR systems and tools as needed by the organization
3. Maintain the HR existing documents and tools
4. Develop and structure the training tools
5. Manage his/her team members by setting up objectives and implementing performance appraisal

- Master in HR management, Business Administration or any other related field
- At least 5 years of experience in HR organization and management
- Relevant experience in project management and management of changes in an HR context
- Computer literate (at least word, excel, PowerPoint)
- Autonomous, rigorous, dynamic, creative and ready for challenges
- Good verbal and written communication both in Tagalog and English
- Committed to work for an NGO

Internal Auditor (IA)

MISSIONS
1. Ensure compliance to an efficient internal audit control procedures
2. Ensure effectiveness in evaluating overall audit results, weighing the relevancy, accuracy, and perspective of conclusions against the audit evidence of the whole organization.

- A CPA, with preferably 3 years experience in micro enterprise
- Autonomous, dynamic, flexible, ready for challenge in a complex environment, with a strong capacity to think out of the box
- Computer literate, preferably with experience in audit of information systems
- Proficiency in oral and written communications
- Committed to work for an NGO where the main reward is the fulfilment to work with 165 young people dedicated to the services provided to more than 10 000 families

Information Technology Project Leader (1 year contract with possible extension)

UPLIFT is composed of three main offices equipped with many IT facilities. A specific software is used to monitor the loans and savings activities. UPLIFT plans to change its software for a more performing one
MISSIONS
1. Identify a new Loans and savings monitoring software (preparation of project specification);
2. Ensure the migration and implementation of the new software identified;
3. Ensure that UPLIFT is equipped with the proper IT facilities;
4. Train all users on the current and new software if necessary;

- Information technology graduate
- Experience in software migration and development
- Experience in banking or Micro finance
- Experience or background in programming languages (Visual fox pro, SQL, VBA, Access)
- 25 to 40 years old
- Autonomous, rigorous, dynamic and committed to work for an NGO
- Good communication skills (written and verbal)

Coordinator for Access to Company Employment (ACE) Service

ACE is a service of UPLIFT targeting children (16 to 25 years old) of its Micro finance and livelihood services beneficiaries who are willing to find a job in the formal sector. UPLIFT provides a series of services to help them such as job hunting training, counseling, provision of job leads, etc. Several companies and the DOLE (Dept. of labor and employment) are our partners
MISSIONS
1- Training beneficiaries on job hunting techniques;
2- Providing job opportunities to beneficiaries;
3- Follow-up and counseling of beneficiaries,
4- Coordinating with companies, governmental and non-governmental organizations.

- Psychology graduate (would be a plus)
- 25 to 30 years old
- Experience in HR would be a plus
- Computer literate (at least word, excel, PowerPoint)
- Autonomous, rigorous, dynamic, flexible, creative and ready for challenges
- Committed to work for an NGO, like field work and being in contact with people

UPLIFT Nnetwork Exchange and Communication Coordinator

UPLIFT Network is composed of NGO replicating the UPLIFT principles in Micro finance, livelihood and training services. Events are regularly organized to ensure sharing of experiences among the members. A newsletter maintains the contact.
MISSIONS
1. Organize all Uplift network events (seminars, workgroups, etc.);
2. In charge of the quarterly Uplift network newsletter;
3. Maintenance of the UPLIFT network library.
4. Design communication materials and fund raising proposal;

- Communication or social science and philosophy graduate (preferably)
- 20 to 28 years old
- Experience in fund raising would be a plus
- Computer literate (at least word, excel, PowerPoint, page maker or other publishing software)
- Autonomous, rigorous, dynamic and creative and ready for challenges
- Good oral and written communication
- Committed to work for an NGO

If you think you meet the above qualifications and requirements, please forward your application letter and resume to: daye.aguinaldo@uplift.org.ph

VSO

Sharing skills
Changing lives

Volunteer allowance...
Far from home...
Incredible challenges...
Return home with
improved skills and
wonderful memories to
last you a lifetime!

VSO does not work by sending equipment, medical supplies or aid. **We send skilled people.** These VSO volunteers live and work at the heart of communities in **Africa, Asia, the Balkans, the Caribbean** and **the Pacific**, exchanging ideas with the local people in order to help them to help themselves.

VSO volunteers share their professional skills and experience with local communities and partners, helping them to set up and run projects that will benefit their own communities. Once these projects are up and running, local people can keep them going when the volunteers who helped to start them return home. Many VSO Returned Volunteers say they come home with improved skills in areas such as team building, problem solving, the ability to cope with difficult situations, and strategic thinking.

VSO recognizes the power of individuals driven by their commitment to make a difference wherever they are. Through **VSO Bahaginan**, its recruitment base in the Philippines, VSO offers a unique opportunity for Filipino professionals to share their skills with some of the world's poorest people in other developing countries.

If you're from **25 to 65 years old with at least 3 years of professional experience in Business & Management, Community & Social Development, Health, and Technical & Natural Resources**, VSO Bahaginan can set you on course to one of the most rewarding experiences of your life.

Interested volunteer applicants may request for a VSO application form via email at bahaginan@vsoint.org or through postmail by writing to:

The Director
VSO Bahaginan
Unit 505, Pacific Corporate Center
131 West Avenue, Quezon City 1105

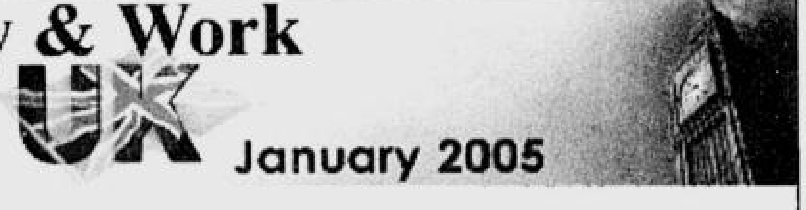
VSO provide volunteers with a comprehensive package of training and support that includes **pre-departure and in-country trainings, return airfare, health insurance and vaccinations, accommodation, a modest living allowance and a small end-of-service grant.**

VSO Bahaginan is not just about working overseas in another country. We also **support national volunteering by building partnerships** to strengthen and build the capacities of local volunteer organizations. If the time is not right for you to volunteer, you can still help us build a fairer world. We also need people who are prepared to **support us through donations, or by taking part in fundraising and awareness-raising activities**, to help us in our work.

VSO or **Voluntary Service Overseas** is an international development organization that works through, *and with*, volunteers, sending them to more than 30 countries in the developing world. It promotes volunteering by bringing people together to share skills, creativity and learning to build a fairer world.

CALLING ALL NURSES

Study & Work in the UK



January 2005

Study Overseas UK, one of the UK's largest education consultancies, is inviting applications from fully qualified nurses who would like to attend a preparation course at a leading private college in England commencing in January 2005. All nurses who successfully complete the course are guaranteed one interview with an NHS trust, which if passed will lead to full supervised practice in an NHS Trust hospital and subsequent registration with the NMC as a Grade D nurse.

The course aims to improve English language skills as well as cultural awareness of the UK and the healthcare system and is of 3, 6 or 9 months duration depending on prior English language skills. Subject to visa restrictions students will be assisted with finding part time paid employment in a health care setting during the course.

Entry requirements:	A degree in nursing, 3 years post degree work experience and an NMC approval/final decision letter.
Tuition fees:	£1700 (3 months), £3150 (6 months), £4570 (9 months).
Estimated living costs:	£500 per month.

Places for entry onto the preparation course are limited hence preference will be given to nurses who have completed an English language qualification such as IELTS or TOEFL and have experience in one of the following fields: intensive care; renal; orthopaedics; anaesthesia; trauma and emergency.

For further information on the course and working in the UK as a nurse please view our website *www.BritishHigherEducation.com/nurses.*

To apply for the course please fax a copy of your CV and valid NMC approval/final decision letter to Catherine Del Rosario Oy in our London office:

STUDY OVERSEAS UK
The British Education Consultants
159 Praed Street
Paddington, London W2 1RL, UK
Tel: +44 207 262 2688
Fax: +44 207 262 2277
London@BritishHigherEducation.com

www.BritishHigherEducation.com

URGENTLY NEEDED

FIELD ENGINEERS

Qualifications:

- ➢ Must be licensed Civil Engineers
- ➢ Minimum of 5 years experience in Estimate and Supervision of Vertical & Horizontal construction
- ➢ Newly licensed Engineer may also apply
- ➢ Residents of Pasig City preferred but not necessary
- ➢ Applicants should be productive, a fast and conscientious worker and can work under pressure

Applicants may send their resumé or apply in person at the Personnel Office, 4th Floor, Pasig City Hall, Caruncho Ave., Pasig City.

COME & JOIN :

A dignified and prestigious Japanese firm that is engaged in Sales of Semiconductor & Electronic parts/components is in need of a highly motivated and competitive individuals to fill-up the position:

SALES ENGINEER

Job Description:

- ➢ To secure business from customers in the Philippines
- ➢ To act as technical and engineering support to end users in the Philippines
- ➢ To do after sales services, such as: quality issue, coordination between end user in Philippines and our parent company in Singapore, USA and Japan.

Qualifications:

- Graduate of any Engineering course.
- Male, strictly 26-32 years of age
- Preferably with experience in Semiconductor Industry, Sales or Engineering.
- Hardworking, willing to work under pressure, & result-oriented
- Preferably with car and driver's license.
- Computer Literate

Please send your resume and transcript of record with CONTACT NO. not later than November 5, 2004 to:

TAKEZAWA TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER & INDUSTRIAL CONSULTANCY, INC.
Unit E Lower Ground Floor Westgate Tower
Madrigal Business Park, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City
E-MAIL: natverdeflor@axti.com or FAX NO.: 772-1889

(ONLY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS SHALL BE SCHEDULED FOR INTERVIEW)

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spi litigation direct

SPI Litigation Direct is a leading worldwide provider of conventional coding and electronic data discovery support services for top international law firms, corporate counsel, and government agencies. To cater to the extensive requirements of our clients in the global litigation support industry, we invite qualified and highly motivated candidates for the following job openings:

QUALITY ASSURANCE SUPERVISOR

code: LDI-QAS

- Will be responsible for supervising and coordinating the work activities of shift personnel according to productivity and quality standards
- Must have at least 1-2 years supervisory work experience
- Can perform logical decisions based on given specifications
- Should possess effective leadership abilities
- Preferably graduates of Computer Science or Engineering college courses

TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF

code: LDI-TSS

- Graduates of ECE or Computer Engineering
- At least 2 years experience in systems and network installation and maintenance
- Knowledgeable in the following: Wireless communication, WAN/LAN environment, computer hardware servicing
- Willing to work on shifting schedule

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT STAFF

code: LDI-PDS

- Graduates of Computer Science or any IT-related course
- At least 2 years experience in using Visual Basic 6.0, and Clipper / FoxPro/ C language/ or any DOS Xbase language
- Has background on n-tier development using SQL, and Windows NT or Windows 2000
- Technical skills in Web Technologies such as ASP, Java and HTML are a definite advantage
- Must possess good communication skills in English
- With above average scholastic records

FILES MANAGEMENT STAFF

code: LDI-FMS

- Graduate of Computer Science or any IT-related course
- With good scholastic records
- Possess good communication skills in English
- Proficient in MS Office, Norton Commander Utilities and various operating systems such as DOS, Windows 98 and above
- Knowledge in other applications is an advantage
- Willing to work in any shift and on a project basis

For interested applicants please proceed to:

*SPI HR Office, 2/f Sky Freight Bldg. C, NAIA Ave. corner Pascor Drive Sto. Niño Parañaque City (beside Casino Filipino, across NAIA). **Bring your updated resumé w/ recent 2x2 picture, Transcript of Records and SSS ID or E2 form**, OR you may also send your resumé to: s.buyo@spitech.com or visit our **website: www.spitech.com***

Please indicate position code on the envelope or subject line. Applicants in the past 6 months need not apply.

MANILAWIRE AND CABLE CORPORATION a newly established company located at Mandaluyong City is looking for candidates to fill in the following positions:

Accounting Assistants (2)

- ☐ Female, 22 to 28 years old
- ☐ With at least 3 to 4 years work experience handling general bookkeeping, preparation of financial statements, costing and government reportorial requirements
- ☐ With clear understanding and knowledge in taxation
- ☐ Familiar with MYOB accounting software
- ☐ Diligent, attentive to details and willing to work long hours

HRD Officer

- ☐ Female, 22 to 32 years old
- ☐ Must have at least (3) years supervisory experience in all phases of Human Resources Development, specifically in recruitment, selection and placement, compensation and benefits administration and employee communication and relation services
- ☐ Must be a graduate of BS/AB Psychology, Behavioral Science or any related course from a reputable school
- ☐ Extensive knowledge on Labor Code
- ☐ Enterprising individual who can deliver results
- ☐ Equipped with superior presentation and communication skills
- ☐ Dynamic, creative, goal oriented
- ☐ With excellent communication and human relations skills
- ☐ With pleasing personality, dynamic disposition and excellent planning sense
- ☐ With good leadership and supervisory abilities
- ☐ Proficient in Microsoft Office application

Sales Executives

- ☐ Male/Female, 22 to 30 years old
- ☐ Preferable has a college degree in Marketing , Engineering or related course
- ☐ With previous sales experience in telecom, electrical and data communication products
- ☐ Good selling, interpersonal and communication skills
- ☐ Goal driven and a team player
- ☐ Fast learner, hardworking and pleasing personality

Interested applicants may send application letter with comprehensive resumé and picture at:

Code # 333
C/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classified Div., 5/F, Bldg. B, SM Megamall
EDSA, Mandaluyong City
Or send email at
sales@manilawire.com

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

MERCHANDISERS

- Willing to go abroad for sourcing
- Must be updated in fashion trends
- Must have at least one year exp.

FASHION DESIGNER

- Computer literate
- Must be good in fashion forecast

BUYER

- Must know how to speak Mandarin
- Must be willing to go to China for sourcing

SECRETARY

- Must have at least one year experience

Please submit your resumé to:

THE MANAGER
#7 Corinthian Villas Subd.
Posadas Avenue, Sucat, Muntinlupa

WANTED

SALES REP

FOR A START-UP COSMECEUTICAL COMPANY

MUST BE
- A COLLEGE GRADUATE
  FLUENT IN ENGLISH
  PRESENTABLE, W/ OUTGOING PERSONALITY
  MUST HAVE GOOD PEOPLE SKILLS
  AT LEAST ONE YEAR SALES EXPERIENCE
  MOTIVATED

SEND YOUR RESUMES W/ PHOTO, TOGETHER WITH CONTACT INFORMATION, i.e CELLPHONE #, OR LANDLINE, ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 7, 2004 TO.

MS. ANNE ACUÑA
c/o PROSTAR MARKETING CORP
36TH FLOOR SUMMIT ONE OFFICE TOWER
530 SHAW BOULEVARD MANDALUYONG CITY
TEL 534 7072

A LEADING MARKETING COMPANY ENGAGED IN NATIONWIDE DISTRIBUTION OF CONSUMER PRODUCTS, IS IN URGENT NEED OF A TOP CALIBER:

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

- Female, between 30-45 years old; Pleasing personality
- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or Human Resource Management
- With at least five (5) years experience in all facets of Human Resource Management in a managerial capacity
- Must be proficient in both oral and written communications
- Must have strong leadership qualities, organizational and interpersonal skills
- Must be people-oriented and can deal well with all levels in the organization

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO SEND IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2x2 PHOTO TO:

Box MN – 2062
Philippine Daily Inquirer
c/o Classified Ads
Pasong Tamo cor. Yague & Mascardo Sts.
Makati City

We are an ISO-certified Multinational Group of Companies with global representations; engaged in various businesses, all wholly committed to quality service and customer satisfaction. We are presently looking for highly motivated individuals to fill the following positions:

SYSTEMS ANALYST / PROGRAMMER

- At least 23 years old. Graduate of any computer-related course;
- With two (2) years experience in enterprise-wide system analysis, design and development;
- With working knowledge in web-launched systems, e-commerce, and web-based reporting systems;
- Proficient in VB6/VB.Net, SQL Server 7.0/2000/CRYSTAL REPORTS;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.

WEB AND MULTIMEDIA DESIGNER

- At least 23 years old, College Graduate;
- With two (2) years or more of experience in web, graphic and multi-media design concept and development;
- Proficient in MACROMEDIA FLASH MX, ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR, ADOBE PHOTOSHOP, and DREAMWEAVER;
- Knowledge of ASP Programming is a plus;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.

CALL CENTER REPRESENTATIVE

- At least 20 years old, College Graduate;
- Marketing experience is preferred but not required;
- Excellent English communication skills;
- With a dynamic and pleasing personality;
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply.

Send your comprehensive Curriculum Vitaé with recent 2x2 photo before NOVEMBER 6, 2004 to P.O. Box 370 or hrd@cfsharp.com.

! ! ! JOIN THE WINNING TEAM ! ! !

BCSINFOSYSTEMS

BCS INFOSYSTEMS SERVICES, INC. is an international B2B technology solutions provider specializing in internet security, e-commerce, CRM and applications systems development. Our Makati Contact Center is in need of

50 TELEMARKETERS

for the strategic marketing campaigns of our **foreign clients.**

POSITION REQUIREMENTS:

- Proficient in Conversational English
- Willing to work the graveyard shift
- Hardworking, Motivated, Persistent Personality
- College Graduates Only
- Telemarketing Experience is a plus
- Preferably under 28 years of age
- Applicants with previous credit-card or insurance sales experience shall be prioritized.

Interested applicants may submit their resume and a recent ID picture at the lobby of our support office at Landsdale Tower, Mother Ignacia Ave. corner Timog Ave., Quezon City, or email us at hr@bcsinfosystems.com, Mondays to Fridays.

Applicants' resumes shall be reviewed by date of receipt.

All qualified Applicants shall be notified through telephone for interview schedule and/or interviewed by phone anytime from 6PM to 10PM.

IMMEDIATE HIRING !!!
ACCOUNTING CLERK
Accountancy Grad. Expert in MS Excel
PROMO GIRL
With Selling Experience
Apply at 3F Sentro Kapitolyo Bldg. 59 West Capitol Drive, Bo. Kapitolyo Pasig 747-2222

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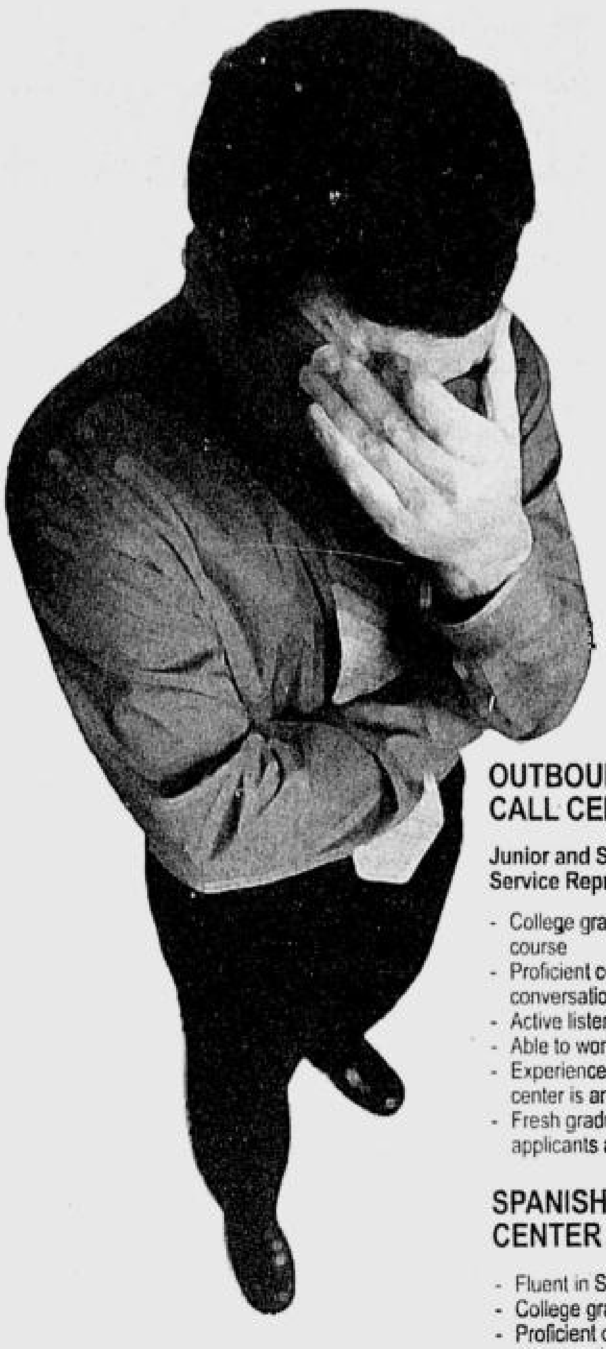
www.go2canada.com
FREE ASSESSMENT



Are you TIRED & BORED with your CURRENT JOB?

NOW HIRING! All positions

OUTBOUND / INBOUND CALL CENTER AGENTS

Junior and Senior Customer Service Representatives / QA Analyst

- College graduate of any 4-year course
- Proficient communication skills in conversational English
- Active listening skills
- Able to work on shifting schedules
- Experience in sales or in a call center is an advantage
- Fresh graduates / entry level applicants are encouraged to apply

SPANISH SPEAKING CALL CENTER AGENTS

- Fluent in Spanish
- College graduate of any 4-year course
- Proficient communication skills in conversational English
- Active listening skills
- Able to work on shifting schedules
- No need for prior call center experience
- Fresh graduates / entry level are encouraged to apply

NETWORK ENGINEERS

- Degree in Network Engineering / MCSE / MCP
- Experience in networking with Cisco Routers
- Experience in LAN Environment
- At least 2 years experience
- Can work with minimal supervision
- Can work with shifting schedules
- Efficient CRM Apps
- Telephone EPBX Knowledge

ADMIN ASSISTANT

- Female
- Proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint
- 1 year experience in administration
- Willing to work on graveyard / shifting schedule

LEGAL ASSISTANT

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- Must be knowledgeable in corporate documentation, labor, and industrial relations
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- Must be male, 40 years old and above
- Hardworking, can work long hours and on weekends
- Honest with integrity
- Valid passports and NBI clearance required

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- Hardworking willing to be assigned abroad/can work long hours and on weekends
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- College degree in Accounting
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- With proven and effective negotiation skills
- With excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Must be result oriented, patient and willing to work long hours if necessary
- Honest with integrity

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- Computer literate, MS Word, Excel, Pagemaker, Coreldraw
- Valid passport and NBI clearance required

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

- Licensed ENGINEER/ARCHITECT with at least 10 years experienced in Construction Management
- Male, 35-45 years old
- Willing to be assigned abroad
- Excellent in oral and written communication
- Computer literate (AUTOCADD/MS OFFICE)
- Valid passport and NBI clearance needed

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- Graduate of BS Accountancy course, CPA
- Must have at least 3 years experience in an auditing firm
- Female, 25 to 35 years old
- Supervisory experience would be an advantage
- Can handle work pressures, with strong planning and organizational and leadership qualities
- Experience in handling Tax procedures would be an advantage

Interested applicants may send their resumé with recent 2x2 picture, a copy of Transcript of Records and NBI Clearance to the address below indicating the position applied for:

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e-mail: intra_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph
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- ■ Monitoring and coordinating the ongoing servicing activities of ADB's accredited housing brokers and evaluating their overall performance;
- ■ Publishing regular Metro Manila residential rental property market overviews; and
- ■ Updating housing-related ADB publications.

Selection Criteria

Candidates must:

- ■ possess a recognized university degree or equivalent qualification;
- ■ have proven expertise in dealing with the housing market for expatriates in Metro Manila;
- ■ be based in Metro Manila and fully aware of the housing services and level of real-estate expertise available in Metro Manila;
- ■ have experience in providing guidance on housing matters to professionals of diverse nationalities and cultural backgrounds;
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Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

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- Computer literate

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- Between 23 to 30 years of age
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Human Resources Development Department
Citystate Centre Building
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Tel. No. 636-3333 / 637-9843

Or email to : **hrd@citystatesavings.com**

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- ☑ With pleasing personality
- ☑ Computer literate (MS Office Applications)

MARKETING ASSISTANT

- ☑ College graduate from a reputable school, preferably business course
- ☑ 21 - 28 years old, female, preferably single
- ☑ With excellent communication skills
- ☑ Very pleasing personality
- ☑ Computer literate (MS Office Applications)

ASSISTANT AUDITORS

- ☑ BS Accountancy graduate from a reputable school
- ☑ 21 - 28 years old, preferably single
- ☑ Has at least 6 months audit experience
- ☑ With above average communication skills
- ☑ With pleasing personality
- ☑ Computer literate (MS Office Applications)

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY

- ☑ College graduate from a reputable school, preferably business course
- ☑ 21 - 28 years old, female, preferably single
- ☑ Has at least a year experience in the same position
- ☑ With excellent communication skills
- ☑ Very pleasing personality
- ☑ Computer literate (MS Office Applications)

Qualified applicants must submit Letter of Application, Resume (2 pages & less), Transcript of Records or Copy of Grades and most recent 2x2 ID picture at:

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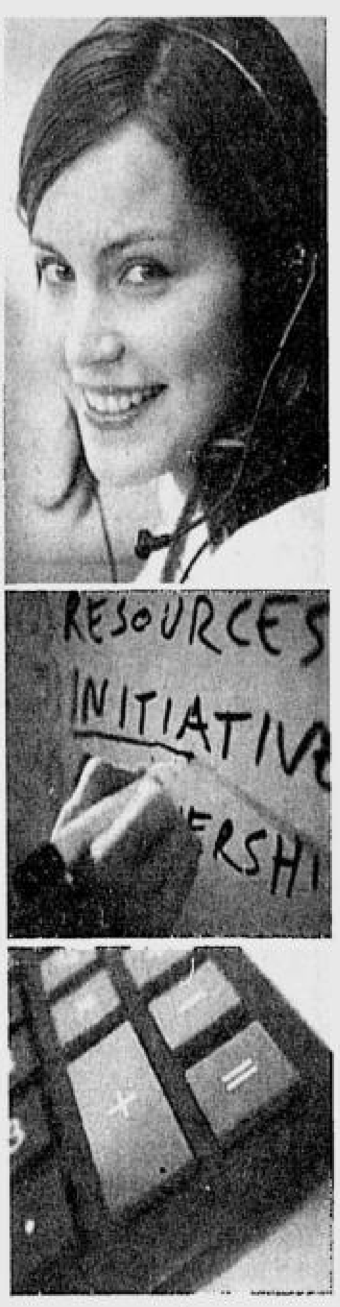

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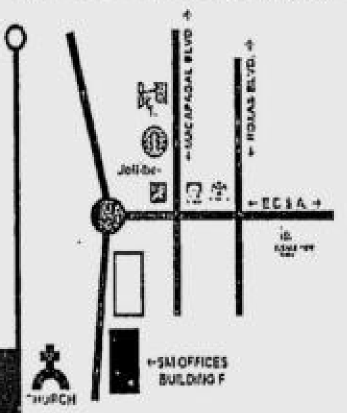

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National Capital Region
Division of Pasig City and San Juan

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  Working knowledge of microprocessor controls is an advantage
- Can perform board level diagnostics & repair
- Above average communication skills
- Able to work independently without supervision

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Philippine TIPS
TUBERCULOSIS INITIATIVES FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Philippine Tuberculosis Initiatives for the Private Sector (Philippine TIPS), a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under USAID Contract Number 492-C-00-02-00031 and implemented by a consortium led by Chemonics International Inc., is in need of experts to fill in the following positions:

1. BEHAVIOR-CHANGE COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST
- At least 5 years work experience, the last 2 in a project or senior management level position.
- Background should include at least 2 major successful engagements directed at influencing the treatment and prescribing practices of medical professionals in the areas of medical communications, academic detailing, CME, etc.
- Knowledge or familiarity with Tuberculosis and Directly Observed Treatment, Short-course (DOTS) an advantage but not required
- Superior writing and oral presentation skills
- Masters degree or equivalent in professional experience and trainings completed
- Filipino or U.S. citizen only

Duration of assignment : 1 December 2004 to 31 October 2005
Minimum level of effort : 17 persondays/month
Type of assignment : Full-time consultant

2. HEALTH COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS SPECIALIST
- At least 5 years work experience, the last 2 in a project or senior management level position
- Background should include at least 1 major successful engagement in health communications and publications
- Good contact with the news media
- Knowledge or familiarity with Tuberculosis and Directly Observed Treatment, Short-course (DOTS) an advantage but not required
- Superior writing, editing and oral presentation skills
- Masters degree or equivalent in professional experience and trainings completed
- Filipino or U.S. citizen only

Duration of assignment : 1 December 2004 to 31 October 2005
Minimum level of effort : 17 persondays/month
Type of assignment : Full-time consultant

3. PROGRAM ASSISTANT FOR COMMUNICATIONS
- At least 3 years work experience, the latest in a project or office doing work related to health
- Knowledge or familiarity with Tuberculosis and Directly Observed Treatment, Short-course (DOTS) an advantage but not required
- Superior writing and oral presentation skills
- Excellent knowledge of computer applications
- University degree from a reputable university, with above-average grades
- Filipino or U.S. citizen only

Duration of assignment : 1 December 2004 to 31 October 2005
Minimum level of effort : 22 persondays/month
Type of assignment : Full-time consultant

Qualified applicants are requested to send their expression of interest together with their resume' indicating contact numbers to phil_tips@philtips.com (please avoid attachments) on or before November 25, 2004.

Pioneering and Dynamic High Technology Company is expanding

Climate Control Engineers (2)

To interface with customers to provide pre and post solutions technical support. Shall act as first level of technical interaction for the sales team. Shall document calls and monitor project status, troubleshoot products and assist design team
- Bachelors Degree in Engineering (preferably ME), not more than 40 years old(male or female)
- Experience in Air-Conditioning an advantage
- Experience with MS Office, Visio and other specialized applications in a networked environment.
- Must have strong interpersonal and communication skills, high customer and quality orientation
- Must be able and willing to work long hours with minimal supervision, Must be willing to train abroad
- Ortigas Center Operations

Technicians (2)

To install and maintain climate control equipment in the highest standards as required by the factory. Troubleshoot and instruct customers to operate equipment. Attend to regular warranty check-ups and verify warranty claims.
- Male with experience in Air Conditioning/HVAC maintenance and installation(not more than 40 years old)
- Must have some communication skills and must possess high quality customer orientation
- A degree or certificate in the related technical course is a plus but not necessary
- Must be willing to train abroad

Administrative Assistant

To support the design and technical team in implementing project components. Manage and coordinate day-to-day operations in the project office, maintain communications with partners and clients, organize and coordinate meetings, facilitate logistical arrangements, keep personnel records, basic bookkeeping and general administrative functions
- Female, not more than 35 years old. Bachelor's Degree holder. With at least 2 years experience in an office administrative capacity.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, high customer and quality orientation
- Proficient in working with MS Office, accounting software and other specialized computer applications in networked environment
- Must be able and willing to work long hours with minimal supervision.
- Ortigas Center operations

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PLEASE INDICATE POSITION APPLIED FOR
Qualified applicants will be notified electronically

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- 19 - 38 years old
- with or without experience

Applications will be processed from November 02 to 9, 2004, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday to Saturday
Apply in person at:
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He walks tallest

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

ZACCHAEUS climbing a tree in order to get a view of Jesus—it's one of the stories in the Bible that tickle my imagination. I'd picture him as a midget, an *unano*—like those working as waiters at a restaurant in Manila—and I would almost inevitably be reminded of an employer I interviewed long ago who wasn't quite five feet tall but who commanded the respect not only of his employees but of the community as well.

"*Wala sa tangkad iyan* (It has nothing to do with height)," the diminutive boss would quip. "Success at work depends on principled leadership. The leader must have a vision and put service, not profit, as the number one goal of the organization, whether it manufactures shoes or sells *tinapa*." His own company, which runs a massage clinic and trains people to eventually be self-employed reflexologists, has a unique program worth emulating. After passing all his or her examinations but prior to graduation, each trainee puts in 300 hours of "charity work"—applying the newly learned skills free of charge to patients who normally can not afford to pay the cost of a massage. These patients would be either walk-ins or residents of depressed communities requesting their services. The program, thus, allows the leader to: multiply himself by passing on his knowledge; help others towards self-sufficiency; and extend pro bono therapeutic services to the poor.

His service-oriented leadership has influenced his trainees and employees to look at work through a visionary's eyes.. It's easy to spot him in the workplace—he's the shortest guy around—but to the admiring eyes of his people, he's the man who walks tallest. (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY MISTADES

Gospel: Luke 19: 1-10

But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over."

'Dream company'

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

I MET a couple who are very much engaged in a faith renewal program in the Catholic Church. They have helped spiritually many people including several poor ones whom they want to assist also with sufficient means of livelihood. They received a promise of foreign fund assistance so they are planning to put up a company, which could employ several poor people. This company would be different from others. It will provide the workers and their families a complete compensation package for a decent way of living. It will think first about the total welfare of the workers and their families and then that of profit to keep the business going. If there is a "dream team," there could also be a "dream company," and this is what I would call it—one which would pay its workers "four times over" the rest.

Will this kind of company be realistically possible? The principles of economics—where there is calculated interplay between capital, labor cost, production cost, market demand, profit and others—would indicate its high impossibility. Perhaps, only those who experience the conversion that Zacchaeus in today's Gospel encountered will be ready and willing to put up and maintain such a kind of company.

Jesus shows that a person, whether a wealthy businessman or a poor worker, who intimately encounters God's love and mercy at home or at work, will be transformed and will see things from a faith perspective rather than from an economic point of view. Everyone who greatly desires to see Jesus and experiences a deep conversion in his life will be equipped to work to make a "dream company" come true. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net)

More on how to improve one's resumé

From page 12

A secretary's resumé does not simply state that she can type 80 wpm and that she is extremely accurate. It is better to cite the benefits of those skills to an employer's bottom line. So, she states "Achieved top production volume by maintaining high degree of accuracy with typing speed of 80 wpm." or "Cut labor expense by about P110,000 by eliminating the need for part-time word processing staff." or "increased sales by 15 percent in 2003 in the North Luzon region."

Under **"Educational Background,"** start with the latest degree in reverse chronological order. Mention the name and location of the school, inclusive dates, degree earned, honors received. If you have earned graduate units, print this ahead of your college degree.

For example:

1. Graduate School of Business Administration; University of the Philippines; Diliman, Quezon City; 2002-present; Have earned 18 academic units towards an MBA degree
2. College of Arts; University of the Philippines; Diliman, Quezon City; 1988-1992; Bachelor of Arts (A.B. in Psychology); Cum Laude Honors; GPA of 1.48 (with 1.0 as highest grade)
3. St. Paul College of Quezon City ; Aurora Blvd., Quezon City; 1984-1988 ; High School Diploma; High School Valedictorian
4. St. Paul College of Quezon City ; Aurora Blvd., Quezon City; 1978-1984; Elementary School Diploma; Valedictorian

Under **"Training Programs Attended,"** print the title of the training program, starting with the latest program attended; sponsoring organization, specific dates, and place where conducted.

For example:

Performance Coaching and Counseling Skills Workshop; Conducted by Career Systems, Inc.; September 6-10, 2004; Holiday Inn Manila Galleria Hotel, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City

Under **"Professional Affiliation,"** print the professional and/or trade organization you are a member/an officer of, inclusive dates of membership, and address of the organization. For example:

Career Development Association of the Philippines (CDAP); 2002-present; Secretariat: Assumption College, Makati City

Under **"Referrals,"** list names of three to five people who know you professionally (in school or at work) and who can vouch for your competencies and character. You have previously asked permission from them to be listed as your reference and they have agreed. The list of names is not included in your resumés. You simply state: Available if needed or Available upon request.

It is estimated that about 1,000 or even more resumés are received for every vacant job position advertised. A job hunter would typically send out 100 resumés to get one job interview. Resumés are sent not only by the jobless but also by people who are employed and are looking for better jobs in the same career in another organization, or switching to a different career. The employer's first task is not selection but elimination. The resumés that are eliminated and thrown out are those that look unattractive, format-wise; and those that are poorly written, content-wise.

Statistics show that it takes only 8 to 10 seconds for an employer to decide the fate of the resumés. This is why a job hunter can send out many resumés but is never called in for an interview. And this is also why so many thousands are still out there unemployed.

(*Ms Santamaria is president of Career Systems Inc., a leading career development consultancy company. Send requests for career advice to* carsys@qinet.net *or to* peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph.)

ACCOUNT MANAGER

- With salary of P130,000 – P250,000 per annum
- Preferably a graduate of UP, Ateneo or La Salle
- Must have at least one year experience in the field of sales and marketing
- Basic computer knowledge
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Must have flexible working hours

HR OFFICER

- With salary of P130,000 – P250,000 per annum
- Must have at least one year experience in the field of HR preferably in a call center
- Must have depth experience in management coaching, organization development and organization effectiveness areas
- Must possess strong leadership skills
- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)

OUTBOUND SALES AGENTS

- With salary of P120,000 – P200,000 per annum
- Must have excellent Tagalog-English (Taglish) conversational skills
- Must have completed at least 2nd year college
- 18 to 27 years old, with outgoing personality
- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)
- Basic computer knowledge
- Internet savvy

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- With salary of P91,000 – P200,000 per annum
- Must be an accounting graduate and must have at least one year experience in the same field
- Female, 21 to 27 years old, must be a self-starter
- Basic computer knowledge
- Knowledge in Quicken or Quickbooks an advantage
- Must have strong organizational skills with emphasis on accuracy

GLOBAL 9, INC.

PLS. APPLY PERSONALLY FROM 3P.M. TO 5P.M.AT
Lapanday center, 2263 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City
Taking the MRT, get off at Magallanes Station and go towards Mantrade (5th bldg. from EDSA)
or SEND your resumes with ID picture to: hrcallcenter@yahoo.com or MAIL TO: P.O. Box 892 Dasmariñas Village, Makati

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www.jobmarketonline.com

MAKATI LAW OFFICE
IS IN NEED OF:

LAWYER

REQUIREMENTS:

- A member of the Bar with good academic preparation
- Should possess good oral, written communication and interpersonal skills
- Computer literate
- Personable, aggressive, self motivated & able to work with minimal supervision
- With experience in corporate or taxation work

INTERESTED APPLICANTS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT THEIR RESUMÉ AT

CCPLAW, 21/F PACIFIC STAR BLDG.,
SEN. GIL PUYAT AVE., MAKATI CITY.

ALTISOLUTIONS MARKETING
is currently in need of

WEB DESIGNER

- Responsible for the design, layout, updating and coding of web pages
- Must be knowledgeable in HTML Hard Coding, Basic Javascript
- Must be knowledgeable using Adobe Photoshop, FTP Softwares
- Must be very good in design

MARKETING/ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- College graduate
- With strong IT background
- Ability to develop and execute aggressive sales, marketing strategies and good communication skills

Send a copy of your resumé to:

franco@altisolutions.com or bring to
Suite 5D, 8101 Pearl Plaza, Pearl Drive,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

MSA

315 Katipunan Ave., Loyola Heights Q.C.
925-7544 929-9145 929-9159

101 Esteban -dela Rosa Legaspi Village Makati
893-3326 815-1307 813-0943

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Civil Service Review

COMPUTER SOFTWARE DEVELOPER

PHP, Perl, Linux, Apache & MySQL
2 yrs. relevant work experience.

Progressive American Company
Excellent compensation schedule.

Submit your resumé via e-mail to
resumé@traffic-power.com
or handcarry it to

Traffic Power Philippines, INc.
23rd Flr. Unit 6, Export Bank Plaza
Buendia cor. Pasong Tamo, Makati City

ACCOUNTANT

A US organization has an immediate opening for an accountant. He/She will be responsible for a range of professional accounting duties in the processing, analyzing and reconciling accounting transactions.

Qualifications:

- Accounting/Banking & Finance Graduate
- Minimum 1-2 years work experience
- Excellent command of both written and spoken English
- Excellent communication skills
- Can work with minimum supervision

Please e-mail application letter and resumé to
ACCPH@AXAFINA.COM

We are in need of a
young and energetic
kindergarten teacher
for private tutoring
in Bahrain.

- Age between 25-30 years
- Send details to:
  fax no. (00632) 8931589 or
  e-mail **infophil@bec.com.kw**

BODY NEEDS & BASICS, INC.
is currently looking for the following:

Sales Representative – male or female; not older than 35 yrs. old, college graduate; with sales work experience in a consumer-based food company, familiar with the whole GMA area; familiar with store chains, convenience stores and major supermarkets.

Sales Coordinators – male or female; not older than 35 yrs. old; college level, with consumer sales work experience; familiar with areas around Metro Manila, willing to do extensive field work.

Internal Auditor – preferably male; Accounting graduate; 25-35 yrs. old; with at least 5 years of extensive auditing / accounting work experience.

Interested applicants may submit their resumé (include contact number) with recent 2x2 colored photo, & employment certificates to:

The HRD Officer
Body Needs & Basics, Inc.
5/F Jade Centre Condominium
105 Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City

Qualified applicants will be contacted for a scheduled interview.

We are looking for qualified applicants for the following positions:

AGRICULTURIST
Junior Civil Engineer **Junior Architect**
Geodetic Engineer **Materials Engineer**

Experience, Relevant License and Computer literacy a must. Please send cover letter, transcript, and resumé with 2x2 picture to: Box 200 c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer, Classified Ads, 5/F Bldg. B, SM Megamall, EDSA, Mandaluyong City

Please indicate current salary.

NOW HIRING
MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONISTS

- with MT experience
- preferably residing in San Juan, Mandaluyong or Pasig

Send application to:

ALLEGIA SCRIPTWORKS
13 San Mateo cor. San Manuel
Bo. Kapitolyo, Pasig City
Attn: Nodinia P. Tejada
or email: nazgul@tri-isys.com

www.go2canada.com
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Q.A. AUDITORS

- Male/Female, 22-27 years old; Graduates of B.S. ME, EE, ChE or IE.
- Experience not required but knowledge and exposure on ISO systems, quality inspections, SPC, dimensional measurements, etc. is a definite advantage.
- Will conduct process and product audits, perform process and equipment validations and certifications, assist in setting-up OPCR systems, SPC, and quality control points.
- Willing to be assigned in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

1. PRODUCT ENGINEERS
2. PRODUCT DESIGN ENGINEERS
3. DRAFTSMEN

- Male, 21-35 years old; Graduates of Mechanical Engineering.
- Experience not required but must possess potentials for the job. Must have exposure on AutoCAD, design and 3D modeling.
- With good communication and leadership skills.
- Willing to be based in Bulacan.

1. ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES ENGINEER
2. ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMIST

- Male, 21-30 years old; Graduate of either Mechanical or Chemical Engineering/Chemistry.
- With experience in Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations and Pollution Control.
- Flexible, fast learner and hands-on engineer.
- For Bulacan assignment.

CAD DESIGNERS

- Male, 22-28 years old; graduate of B.S. Mechanical Engineering (licensed).
- Well-verse in AUTOCADD and other equivalent design software.

CNC SPECIALISTS/OPERATORS

- Male, 19-28 years old; graduate of Technical course.
- With basic knowledge/training in CNC Milling Operations.

MACHINE ASSEMBLERS

- Male, 25-35 years old; graduate of Technical course.
- Must be experienced in machine wiring.

LOGISTICS SUPERVISOR

- Male/Female; Graduate of any Engineering course.
- Must have at least 3 years related work experience as a Logistics or Production Planning Supervisor in a manufacturing environment.
- With good scholastic records, leadership and communication skills.
- Willing to be based in Marilao, Bulacan.

COST ACCOUNTANT /ACCOUNTANT (CPA)

- Male/Female, 23-35 years old; must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).
- Must have at least 1 year hands-on experience as Accountant/Accounting Assistant, preferably with a background on Cost Accounting.
- With good scholastic records and presentation skills.

S.A.P. CONSULTANT TRAINEES

- Male/Female, 21-30 years old; Graduate of any four-year course (Engineering, Accountancy, etc.). Fresh graduates are welcome to apply. Those with I.T. experience have a definite advantage.
- Must be interested to build a career on S.A.P. Consultancy.
- With excellent scholastic records and communication skills.
- Flexible and with good leadership ability.

SEASONED O.D. CONSULTANT/RETAINER

- Male/Female, 40-55 years old; with Masteral education preferably on HRM or MIR.
- Must have at least 10 years OD-related experience and training.
- With good coordination and communication skills.

WE OFFER ATTRACTIVE COMPENSATION & BENEFITS PACKAGE.

THESE ARE ALL URGENT REQUIREMENTS. ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO APPLY PERSONALLY WITH THEIR RESUME, 2x2 PICTURE AND T.O.R. TO:

CORPORATE RECRUITMENT SECTION (BATTERY GROUP)
80-82 Roces Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
E-mail Address: ebmuscat@motolite.com

Previous applicants need not apply.

UNDP

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV AIDS (UNAIDS) in partnership with the OPEC Fund for International Development is in search of qualified candidates for the post of

PROJECT COORDINATOR

General Project Objective:

To mobilize and empower private, public and civil society partnerships towards an expanded national response to HIV/AIDS.

Tasks of the Project Coordinator

The Project Coordinator shall ensure the effective conduct of activities and efficient use of the project funds, under the guidance and approval of the UNAIDS Country Coordinator.

Duration of the Engagement

The contract shall begin 1 December 2004 and shall end 30 September 2006.

Minimum Qualifications of the Project Coordinator

The Project Coordinator should meet the following criteria:

- Graduate of development/social/behavioral/physical sciences or public health
- Minimum of 8 years work experience in HIV/AIDS
- Possesses keen coordination, networking, organizational and interpersonal skills
- Possesses excellent communication skills, both oral and written
- Can work with minimal supervision
- Can work harmoniously with different sectors, particularly government, business, media, church and multilateral agencies
- Preferably with experience in working with the UN system

All application letters and comprehensive resumes should reach our office on or before 10 November 2004. Address applications to the Development Support Services Center, United Nations Development Programme, 7th Floor, NEDA sa Makati Building, 106 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City (via courier) or P.O. Box 7285 Domestic Airport Post Office Lock Box 1300 Domestic Road, Pasay City (via airmail), tel. nos. 892-0611 to 25 loc. 275 / 237.

The United Nations is an equal-opportunity employer and strongly encourages applications from qualified women candidates.

KMBI

Is a Christian development organization engaged in Microfinance & Bus. Dev't. Services with operations in Laguna, Batangas, Quezon, Butuan, Surigao, Bicol and Southern Mindanao

If you are a Christian professional in the field of Accounting, Research and Business Development who has an active involvement in church ministry and desires to join a professional organization that advocates poverty-alleviation and transforming lives for God's glory, we need you to fill up the following positions:

HR Assistant

- Male, single, a graduate of Psychology, Social Sciences or BS Nursing
- Values driven, diligent worker & team player
- Highly-computer literate
- At least 1 year experience in payroll preparation, benefits administration and records management
- Can work long hours & w/ min. supervision

Research & Devt. Manager

- Male/Female, a graduate of any Business or Social Science course
- With at least 3-5 years of in-depth research experience in managerial capacity
- Proficient in doing business proposals & feasibility studies, product dev't. and market research

Audit Manager

- Male/Female, a graduate of Accountancy
- Values driven, diligent worker & team-player
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in Luzon/ Mindanao
- CPA, with 3-5 years auditing experience in managerial capacity

Accounting Associates

- Male/Female, graduate of Accountancy
- Values driven, diligent worker & team-player
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in Luzon/ Mindanao
- With advanced branch to branch/head office accounting background

BDS/Transformation Assistant

- Male or Female, single, a graduate of Social Sciences Community Development
- Values driven, diligent worker and team-player
- Computer literate (Powerpoint, Publisher, Word)
- At least 1 year experience in business development & community organizing
- Exceptional oral & written communication skills
- Knowledgeable in newsletter publication

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture at the HRD Dept., KMBI Head Office, #12 KMBI Bldg., San Francisco St., Karuhatan, Valenzuela City or email at kmbi@skyinet.net or m_orodio@yahoo.com
Telephone Numbers: 291-1484-85; Fax No: 292-2441

We are an equal opportunity employer offering industry-competitive compensation, Php 1-M Accident Insurance Coverage, Health Insurance, Rice Allowance, and Cash Incentive on top of the statutory benefits, plus a chance to travel.

CLIENTLOGIC

JOB VACANCIES:

TECHNICAL SUPPORT REPRESENTATIVE
- graduate of any 4-yr course, preferrably IT-related
- technically proficient in PC architecture, Operations System, the Internet & Desk Top applications
- excellent oral & written communication skills

OTHER VACANCIES:

- CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (w/ financial background)
- QUALITY ANALYST
- TELECOMMUNICATIONS SUPERVISOR
- TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEER
- HELP DESK ENGINEER
- DATA NETWORK ENGINEER
- DATA NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR
- PAYROLL ASSISTANT
- FINANCIAL TRAINER
- FINANCIAL ANALYST
- PAYROLL MANAGER
- HR MANAGER (for Baguio)

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Mon to Fri (9am-3pm) Nov 2 - 5
8/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza,
Emerald Ave, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Mon to Fri (9am-5pm) Nov 2 - 5
Baguio Economic Zone, Loakan Rd.,
Baguio City

Bring your resume w/ 2x2 picture, SSS & TIN nos.

CLIENTLOGIC
Philippines Inc.
Ortigas Center Baguio City

22/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Emerald Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600
E-mail: recruitment@clientlogic.com.ph www.clientlogic.com

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Tel: (632) 941-7877

Is in need of competent individuals to occupy the following positions:

HR & ADMIN SUPERVISOR

- At least 24 years old
- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or any related course
- With at least two years experience as human resources and training
- Dynamic and possesses strong leadership skills

STORE SUPERVISOR

- College graduate of a 4-year course, pref. Business course
- Male or Female
- Has work experience in retail, marketing or sales
- Not more than 24 years old
- Has good oral and written communication skills
- Has good leadership skills

SALES STAFF

- Male or Female
- Not more than 22 years old
- Height of 5'2" for female, 5'6" for male
- At least 2nd year college
- Has good oral and written communication skills
- Above average physical appearance

Interested applicants may submit their resume, transcript of records and previous employment certificate at the above mentioned address.

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jay c. designs

A DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING FIRM IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:

SECRETARY

Female; 21 years above; College Graduate ;Computer literate; Trustworthy & can work with minimum supervison

GRAPHIC ARTIST

Male or Female; 21 years above; College Graduate Knowledgeable in Coreldraw 11 & Photoshop 7

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Male or Female; 21 years above; Experience in Sales is an advantage; Good Strong and charming voice Fluent in English and Filipino; Good communication skills Computer literate; Organized; Diligent and Self-Driven Mature and trustworthy; Knows how to drive and willing to do field work

Please submit resume with recent picture to:

JAY C. DESIGNS, INC.
142 Road 3, Pagasa, Q.C. Tel. No. 927-1776
5/F, Bldg. A, SM Megamall Tel. No. 635-6298
LGF, SM City North EDSA Tel No. 453-4364

WANTED

RECEPTIONISTS for SPA

- with pleasing personality
- not more than 30 yrs. old
- College level

Apply with resumé & new
2"x2" ID photo, Nov. 5, 8 & 9, 2-5 pm
1503 Annapolis Wilshire Plaza
11 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan.

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We are looking for people who enjoy marketing and promoting FUN, INNOVATIVE, EXCITING products on the internet.
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SALES AGENTS

REQUIREMENTS:

- Applicants must be highly energetic and entrepreneurial

- Must have at least 1 year work experience with an Outbound Call Center Company

Applicants may send
their Resumes / Biodata
to paul@ecustomerdesk.com
or call Paul Fernandez
at (632) 7574846;
(920) 913 6915

WE ARE AN IMAGE ENHANCEMENT COMPANY LOOKING FOR ABLE MALE AND FEMALE APPLICANTS WHO ARE YOUNG, DYNAMIC, & FIT TO FILL OUR GROWING WORK FORCE.

Front Desk Assistants - *at least 24 yrs. old, pleasant looking, college graduate, organized; good clerical, administrative and English communication skills (experience in hotel industry, an advantage)*

Sales Consultants - *at least 27 yrs. old, college graduate (preferably w/ medical/nutrition or sales background), pleasant looking, analytical, health oriented, good relational and English communication skills*

Massage or Facial Therapists - *25 – 35 yrs. old, knowledgeable in massage or facial skills, health-oriented*

Nutritionists – *at least 27 yrs. old, BS Nutrition graduate, have done assessment and consultation works, personable and speak English fluently*

Applicants must be enthusiastic, teachable, flexible, can work under pressure, a team player and have an excellent service orientation.

Applicants may send their comprehensive resume with picture to info@institutsantre.com
on or before November 3, 2004 (Wednesday).

HR VP believes in treating employees like valued customers

By JR Bustamante
Contributor

HR Focus

EPIXTAR, an emerging player in the contact center business believes in the strength of its human capital and focuses on an innovative approach to developing and empowering its employees. The company provides a genuine "enrichment area" that occupies an entire floor dedicated to its agents' education and recreation. This area offers a brand new cafeteria, video and video game rooms—even an oxygen bar. This is all part of Epixtar's vision, as Vice President for Human Resources Joann Hizon will proudly tell you.

Hizon is pleased that Epixtar emphasizes the quality of its work environment. Understanding that the company's greatest asset, its people, is realized throughout Epixtar. For Hizon, it starts at the recruitment stage. "The interviewers of some companies make you feel indebted to them when they hire you ... *parang may utang na loob ka pa*. When in fact, it's the other way around. It's a matter of looking at the applicant and knowing that he or she can contribute positively. The company should be thankful to the applicant for filling the vacancy. That's how much we appreciate our people here."

Epixtar's spirit of innovation starts with the design that sets the right ambience, to our recruiting process, to how to maintain a culture of success wherein Epixtar's human capital continually learn and grow. "I want people to enjoy working here. I will walk on burning coals for them and they must reciprocate with dedication and focus."

Corporate image

As you enter Epixtar's career center, you wouldn't think it's a call center company. Epixtar's showroom with its cool futuristic design greets your senses with generation Y's new heroes like KC Montero and Sarah Meier on their computer screens. The waiting area and applicant's booth gives off a luxurious feeling comparable to five-star hotels.

Applicants who pass the company's strict screening are treated to an environment where people enjoy their work. The company believes in taking special care of both its clients and employees. "It's definitely hard work, *trabahong kabayo*, but I will do everything I can for you to enjoy working here. I will give you whatever you need and you will be justly compensated. I want my people to have the best opportunity for development, growth and success.

Epixtar's vision is to provide accessible amenities. "Everything is within reach here. A coffee shop at the ground floor, open 24-hours; a canteen serving the hearty meals 24/7 at U-belt prices; an enrichment lounge with billiards and computer games. There's nothing that the company wouldn't do for our dedicated employees."

Y generation

"The generation Y kids are very ambitious," observes Hizon. "These are the cell phone kids, they grew up with the Internet. They can't imagine life without computers, laptops and the convenience these things afford."

Hizon explains that majority of the call center applicants are fresh graduates who expect instant gratification unlike those employees of decades past who look for a company with good benefits, a generous retirement package where they can work until they retire. "Nowadays, the young ones have high expectations from their employer. This is not solely in terms of compensation. They search for a workplace where is it fun to work ("Where can I work with all my friends?") We understand these needs, we strive to give them what they look for."

No discrimination

Another good thing about Epixtar is its firm stance as an equal opportunities employer. "There is no age, gender, or physical bias against anyone. There is no point in prejudice at the workplace as superficial differences do not matter as long as the job gets done," points out Hizon. Epixtar is open to working students, undergraduates, housewives who need additional income, physically handicapped personnel, gender-benders or those who otherwise would not get a decent break in a conventional multinational as they are not your stereotypical workforce.

HIZON ROGER CARPIO

Spawning of a new age

As call centers operate at odd hours, they have created a whole new market observes Hizon. Now there's a night crowd to serve, opening new business opportunities like 24-hour convenience stores, coffee shops, restaurants and laundromats. The transportation business will have to extend its operating hours to consider the midnight and early morning passengers. Who knows, the entry of this new market may even bring about unexpected positive outcomes like the reduction of traffic during the daytime. There's no denying that the industry has spawned a whole new lifestyle and industries supporting a business that never sleeps.

Looking for your dream job?

JOIN "My Trabaho," a public service program to help people at work and jobseekers find their dream jobs.

Send a letter describing yourself, your strengths and weaknesses, and why you deserve to be selected as a beneficiary of this program, together with a biodata and one 1X1 photo through postal mail to **"My Trabaho at Job Market,"** Philippine Daily Inquirer Bldg., Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City. Or e-mail to **peopleatwork @inquirer.com.ph**. You can also handcarry your letter and biodata to any of Inquirer's Classified Ads branch offices in Metro Manila.

On Dec. 22, the next batch (30 letters per batch) will be picked (by drawing at random the letters). These 30 letter senders will be invited to attend a two-day Career Planning Workshop for free to be conducted by Career Systems, Inc. From these 30 letter senders, 10 will be selected by career mentors to be given the following assistance: a) Weekly career coaching sessions good for two months by a trained and qualified career mentor; b) Two outfits suitable to the targeted job of the applicant; c) A makeover by a reputable grooming salon to prepare him or her for his or her first job interview; d) Free attendance in a two-day Resumé Preparation/ Interview Seminar; e) Cash of P5,000 to be used in going to interviews, making letters of application and resumés, photos and other expenses that will be incurred in their job hunt for two months. For more information, call (632) 897-8808 local 237.

More on how to improve ...

From page 14

achievements will determine the value of your skills. Using numbers creates a vivid image of your having higher level skills and that you are worth a higher salary. Quantify your main achievements whenever possible. Cite numerical figures such as monetary budgets/funds saved; time periods/efficiency improved; lines of code written/ debugged, etc. which demonstrates progress or accomplishments due directly to your own efforts. Use bulleted sentences that begin with action verbs. Action verbs (such as saved, sold, assembled, installed, edited, restored, conducted, remodeled, decreased, increased, streamlined, designed, etc.) give life to your resumés.

Example: Instead of "Maintained records for A/R and A/P Accounts," it is better to state, "Managed over 1,000 A/R and A/P accounts working directly with the Chief Financial Officer."

PAGE 10

MITSUBA
MITSUBA PHILIPPINES Corporation
We are in need of qualified individual to assume
the following positions
NURSE
Female; Registered; below 30 years old
Single / Married; Graduate of BS Nursing
INTERPRETER
(Japanese Language)
Female; below 32 years old
Graduate of any Four Year Course
Fluent in Nihongo and English
MOLD & DIE ENGINEER
Female; below 21 - 23 years old
Graduate of Mechanical or Electrical Engineering
SALES & PURCHASING SUPERVISOR
Female; below 26-32 years old
Graduate of BS Custom Administration or any Business Course
At least two years of related experience
Highly motivated with superior interpersonal skills
PERSONNEL SUPERVISOR
Female; 26 - 32 years old
Graduate of BS Psychology and / or Business Course
At least two years related experience in Personnel works
The above applicants must be a computer literate. Qualified applicants are requested to apply personally and bring your comprehensive resumé with 2 x 2 colored picture until November 29, 2004 at:
MITSUBA PHILIPPINES Corporation
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Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Can you fight harassment and live to talk about it?

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

DEAR Readers: I get many e-mails and faxes from people complaining about abusive bosses. You can choose to fight, I tell them, but know that harassment is a tough fight to win. It's usually easier to look for a saner boss. One woman wrote back, however, and chided me for tolerating harassment. She did fight—and she won. I encouraged her to tell her story publicly so others will know that abuse doesn't have to be tolerated. BB writes:

"I stopped sexual harassment by asking for assistance from upper management. Putting the complaint in writing was difficult. I accused a manager of harassment. I was frustrated and worried: Will they believe me? Will my personnel file be permanently red flagged? Will I become the unpopular bad guy? Will I be fired?

The manager I was accusing is intelligent, adept, charming and well liked by others. But he was offensive to me, with constant 'jokes,' insults and undermining behavior. At first, these were annoying and I let them go. (I called it zapping.) Then I realized he was propelled by contempt. I asked him to stop. He wouldn't. I became anxious, defensive and whiney. I kept complaining. He kept doing it (all in fun, he said).

I complained about early incidents to illustrate that he had set the foundation for an unhealthy manager/ subordinate relationship way back then. He excused it by advising me he has an 'off-sense-of-humor' and suggested that I 'accept him.' He said that I am 'obsessive' and 'high maintenance.' He offered me company-sponsored counseling. He just didn't get it.

Sexual harassment isn't always physical. It's also verbal. I protested when this man called an associate 'bitch.' He replied, 'I'm a manager. I can call her anything I want to.' I remember thinking it was 'open season.' This was a new job. I didn't report him.

One day, as I began a formal presentation to department associates, the manager left the room. Later, my associates told me that as I was speaking, he slipped up behind me, stuck out his tongue, and made 'monkey faces,' flapping his hands over his ears. I confronted him. He denied it. I told him the associates apologized for him. He said he was 'just kidding.' I resented his open contempt and lost all trust for him. I still didn't want to make trouble (for him) by reporting him. (Hello?) But then he suggested I take a want ad job calling for an enthusiastic dancer for an escort service. He said, 'You'd be good at this.' I felt I had no other choice but to report him. I dreaded starting trouble, but I refused to quit a job I liked because of him. I submitted written details and an audiotape. I asked upper management to 'get him off me.' I did not lose my job. I was re-assigned to an upper management supervisor. The guy still has his job, and now he acts normal.

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

Here are the results from a recent workingwounded.com/ABCnews.com online ballot: If you are harassed by your boss at work would you ...

—Take it (I need the paycheck), 7.9 percent

—Leave—work isn't worth that much abuse, 18.9 percent

—Work through company channels, 34.9 percent

—Stand up to him or her 38.1 percent

(Mr. Rosner is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@workingwounded.com.)

My Trabaho helps jobseeker build self-confidence, land a job

By Candy G. Villanueva
Contributor

My TRABAHO

MARILEN Vista one day found herself jobless, broke and crying surrounded with expensive cars in the middle of a parking lot. She will never forget how she cried for what seemed like an eternity asking the skies why she deserved such a misfortune. The clouds never opened up to drop her dream job like manna from heaven. Her answer did not come from the sky, it came through the airwaves.

A fresh accountancy graduate from the Technological Institute of the Philippines, Vista was down on her luck desperately knocking on every prospective employer's door until My Trabaho came along. Marilen Vista is one of the beneficiaries of the "My Trabaho program at dzRH." The AM radio program is a joint venture of the Philippine Daily Inquirer (PDI) and the Manila Broadcasting Company that aims to help the jobseekers and the working masses. As a beneficiary of the program, Vista was given training and coaching on job application and career development. As a result, she recently landed a job at the Thames International Business School as a service officer.

Selection process

"After college I've had a hard time looking for work but I never gave up because I know that there are a lot of jobs out there and I just have to look for one. So every Sunday, I bought PDI, where I learned about the program," recalls Vista. The new grad never thought that she would be chosen but gave the program a try anyway. A few weeks after, she was surprised to receive a call to attend the two-day Career Planning Workshop conducted by Career Systems and My Trabaho.

After the workshop, 30 of the participants where whittled down to 10. Vista was happily one of the 10 who was chosen to receive career coaching sessions from a qualified career mentor. Aside from the mentoring, she further developed her confidence through a series of Career Management seminars conducted by John Clements Consultants, Inc.

Building confidence

The career management seminars taught her how to prepare an impressive re sumé and how to conduct herself in an interview. "I hate to be with a big crowd of people who are different from me; I'm talking about those people coming from the rich and famous that I think like to discriminate us coming from simple homes. I'm afraid of interviews," confesses the 24-year old. According to Vista, the seminar helped her in building her self-confidence. She was taught not to be intimidated by her first impressions of people. After being exposed to different personalities and environments during the program, she learned to let go of her apprehensions.

Vista is also thankful to her career mentor, Rowena Abejuela of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting who taught her to make the most out of her situation. "Sometimes I give up easily and get tired of being me," says Vista. Abejuela worked on Vista's insecurities by constantly reminding her to be patient. "My mentor told me to continue to dream, believe and survive," shares Vista.

"I guess I might have achieved more if I've been given the resources I needed," Vista says looking back before My Trabaho came to her life. My Trabaho tried to answer to the same clamor from the other deserving applicants of the program. Aside from the personality and attitude make over, Vista and the rest of the beneficiaries were also given physical make overs to help them in their search for their dream jobs. The beneficiaries were treated to a wardrobe update and a grooming make over that gave them the added confidence to face their interviewers. Each was also given P5,000 cash to cover job hunting expenses like transportation and preparation of application documents.

VISTA JOSEPH AGCAOILI

Fitting in

With her new job as a service officer for Thames International Business School, Vista handles procurements and communicates with suppliers. So far, Vista is learning the ropes and is slowly fitting in. Sometimes she feels her lack of self-confidence and her apprehension of people get in the way. "It's me, who I think doesn't really fit there. But let's see. Since I'm beginning to like the people there, maybe in time I'll change." She adds that she just tries to remember the things that the program taught her every time she feels out of place. In the end, she's just happy and grateful to have landed a job where she feels useful and responsible.

Fate and hard work

Hard work is also another thing that My Trabaho has imbibed in Vista. "I know that everyone has their own destiny. And mine is to be one of My Trabaho's beneficiaries." But more than fate, she believes that "hard work is the most important thing." Although she is most thankful to Career Systems, John Clements and PDI for helping her secure a stable job, she also believes she could not have done it without persistence and perseverance.

Finally, she advises jobseekers that it is not enough to find a means to earn a living. "Before, my main goal was just to have a job. But from My Trabaho, I learned so many things during our seminars, one thing is you have to enjoy what you're doing." Vista has come a long way from the whining lost job hunter in the parking lot. She may be a long way off from owning one of those expensive cars in the parking area but she is most certainly on her way.

More on how to improve one's resumé

By Josie O. Santamaria

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

SINCE the publication of my first article on resumé writing (Sunday Inquirer, Oct. 17, 2004, Job Market p. 8), I have received requests from some readers asking me to rewrite their resumés for them. I regret I cannot and will not do this. I provide guidelines on resumé writing and give examples of the parts of the resumé. Interested readers are encouraged to have the self-motivation to develop the skill of resume writing by applying these guidelines and being guided by the examples given, in writing or improving their own resumés.

In the last issue, the different parts of a typical resumé were outlined. The following parts were explained: heading, career objective, career summary, key achievements and key competencies. We will now write about the next part, which is work experience.

Under the heading **"Work Experience (or Employment History),"** include all work experiences full or part-time, paid or volunteer. In reverse chronological order the most recent being first, list the name, address and telephone number of the organization, duration of employment, the position you held, the position of the person you reported to, your main tasks and main achievements.

Example:

Name of company: Career Systems, Inc., a management consulting and training company; 2103 Cityland Pasong Tamo Tower, 2210 Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City. Telephone: 817-0110

Duration of employment: five years (June 19, 2001 to Oct. 15, 2004)

Position Title: Accounting Supervisor

Position of the Person Reported to: Finance Manager

Main Tasks. In writing your main tasks, use the job title and skill heading that relate to and match the job vacancy you want to fill. Prioritize the information that the employer seeks. The most significant main tasks and main accomplishments need to be placed at the beginning of the section, not buried down below. Employers make snap judgments about the skills you have when reading your main tasks. They don't have the time to read through each of your job descriptions to determine if you have the skills they need.

Use power words, such as action verbs, that match the level of position you want. If you are applying for a management position, use management-oriented words as much as possible. To help you, use keywords and powerful phrases, read and analyze help wanted ads and job descriptions to get ideas. Use same keywords in your resumé when appropriate.

Example: Instead of "Accounting/ Record keeping," it is better to print "Managed A/R and A/P Accounts." Or, instead of "Give work assignment to entry-level accounting clerks," it is better to state, "Directed work/ flow, supervised and trained accounting staff performing posting to general ledger, A/R and A/P Accounts."

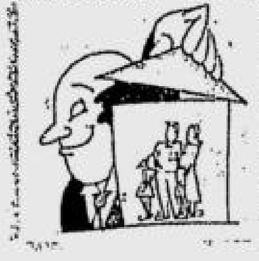
Under **"Main Achievements,"** note that your major

MORE/P.12

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY MISTADES

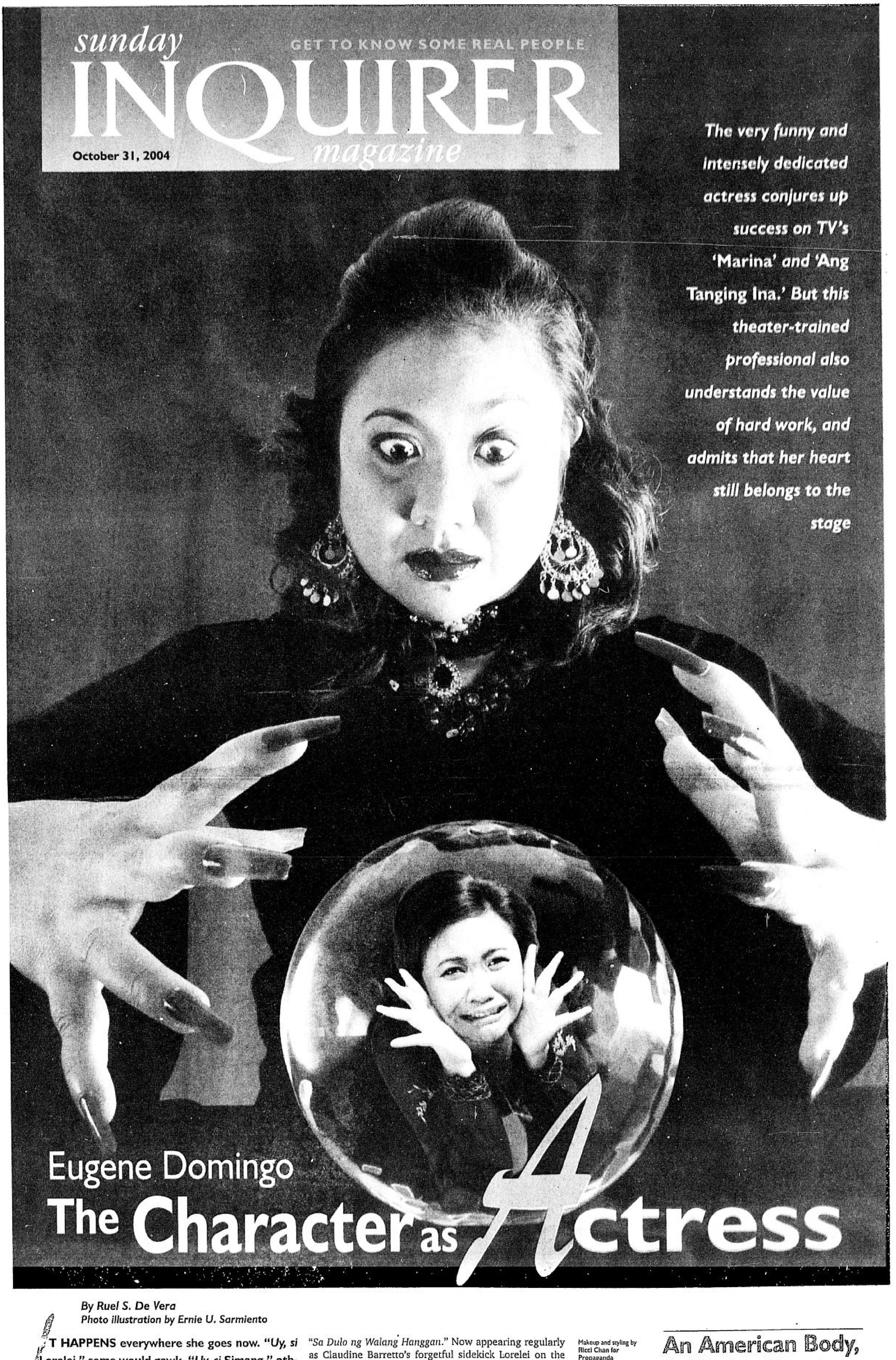
What's inside

HR Focus: *Joann Hizon of Epixtar* *p. 12*



Reflections for the Working Soul *p. 10*

sunday
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
INQUIRER
magazine
October 31, 2004



The very funny and intensely dedicated actress conjures up success on TV's 'Marina' *and* 'Ang Tanging Ina.' *But this theater-trained professional also understands the value of hard work, and admits that her heart still belongs to the stage*

Eugene Domingo

The Character as Actress

By Ruel S. De Vera
Photo illustration by Ernie U. Sarmiento

IT HAPPENS everywhere she goes now. "*Uy, si* Lorelei," some would gawk. "*Uy, si* Simang," others would point. Sometimes, small children run over with huge smiles. And you almost never hear them say her real name—but Eugene Domingo doesn't mind. She appreciates the public affection, but hasn't been changed by it at all.

"Uy, sikat ako, ganoon (Oh, I'm famous, really)," Domingo says in her trademark, aw-shucks, self-deprecating kind of humor. After almost a decade of painstakingly honing her stagecraft in plays at the University of the Philippines, the 33-year-old Domingo began her breakout with a scene-stealing turn as Simang on the ABS-CBN telenovela "*Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan*." Now appearing regularly as Claudine Barretto's forgetful sidekick Lorelei on the fantaserye "Marina" and Ai Ai Delas Alas's wiseacre foil Rowena on the sitcom "*Ang Tanging Ina*," Domingo, quick of wit and fast with asides, is having fun while becoming a familiar face to millions of TV viewers.

Eugenia Roxas Domingo was born on July 23, 1971, the elder of businessman Reynaldo Domingo and homemaker Celia's two children. But it was far from a usual childhood. After a deep sigh, Domingo recalls her unusual life story in her distinctively quick mix of English, Filipino and gayspeak. "*Mahabang kuwento, kasi hindi naman kami* normal *na pamilya. Anak ako sa labas, so iba-iba yung bahay ko. Kung saan kami puwede, doon* (It's a long story, because we weren't a normal family. I was born out of wed-

To page 2

Makeup and styling by
Ricci Chan for
Propaganda
Hair and nails by
Janet De Rama
Production design by
Danny Cristobas,
Andoy Ranay and
Candice Arellano
Accessories by
Frances Makil-Ignacio

An American Body, A Filipino Heart
by Corazon A. Ong, *p.4*

The Filipino Master and His Signorina
by Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz, *p.5*

Cebu's Spokesman of Reggae
by Eric S. Caruncho, *p.8*

Eugene

...from page 1

Domingo, out of character mode for a change, remains ever the student of the craft

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

lock, so I lived in different houses. We stayed wherever we were allowed to).

Most memorable of these various dwellings was the sauna bathhouse which Domingo remembers from first grade. She enjoyed the time she spent with the masseuses; she learned a lot while listening to the attendants' problems. "So at an early age, I learned about life," she says, adding that her grade school classmates thought Domingo had a big house because she lived in a building, not realizing it was a sauna bathhouse. Domingo remembers being the one tasked with calling for the next attendant on the microphone. "Number seven, please;" she mimics. "*At akala ko mayaman kami, kasi may* second floor *kaming hindi ko napupuntahan at saka laging madilim* (And I thought we were rich, because we had a second floor that I never went to, which was always dark)."

Real-life drama

At Stella Maris College in Cubao, Domingo was drawn to performing. "Ever since I was young, whenever I see something happen, I really see it happen," she says in Filipino, adding that she developed the capacity for telling stories in vivid detail. Domingo watched a lot of TV, read Funny Komiks and was weaned by her grandmother on AM radio. "I was already aware of real-life drama and TV drama." In high school, she spent much energy as a member of the drama club, throwing herself into her extra-curricular activities.

After spending a year at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines, Domingo enrolled in Theater Arts at UP Diliman in 1989. And the next act in her story began. "It was really my dream to go there," she recalls. "It's fun at UP, it's like you're creating your own community, because it's complete with a rich culture, lots of people with different personalities, different organizations, and I really liked the freedom of artists on campus."

Her first big play was Dulaang UP's production of David Henry Hwang's "M. Butterfly," where she had a memorable entire scene spent motionless, holding a mirror to lead star Behn Cervantes' face. Domingo learned not only how to act but all the requisite skills involved with plays: washing clothes, sewing on buttons, everything. "And I liked that part," she says. "Because that's how you build respect for your profession and for other people. You don't go, 'I'm an actor, period.' You understand what your colleagues went through."

Joji Lorenzo

Always a pro: Doing a scene for "Marina" with Joel Torre

Domingo displayed an uncanny aptitude for acting, taking on all kinds of roles. For the role of a seductive maid in "*Pakikiramay*," a Filipino translation of Wilfredo Ma. Guerrero's "Compassion," Domingo jogged around the UP campus for two weeks to lose weight. The versatile thespian savored being on the UP stage, inhabiting comedic, dramatic and musical parts. She loved the Hermogenes Ilagan zarzuela "*Sundalong Kapitan*" because "it's an honor to do a classic zarzuela in Filipino." Domingo also remembers enjoying "*Divinas Palabras*" because it was staged in Spanish.

Playing a particularly important part was her own thesis, Harold Pinter's "Old Times," directed by Tony Mabesa, as Domingo essayed all the three roles in the play. She proudly earned her degree in 1997. "Happy *siyempre para sa mga magulang ko*," she explains. "My father even had the diploma xeroxed—wallet size! Promise!"

Her stay in UP began to stretch as Domingo would go on leaves or stop studying for stretches as she began to make appearances on TV and film in 1991. She appeared on the pioneering children's show "Batibot," making her sitcom debut on RPN-9's "Ready *Na*, Direk" after being discovered by Maryo J. delos Reyes and appearing in her first soap, T.A.P.E. Inc.'s "Valiente." After appearing in Ishmael Bernal's film adaptation of Francisco Arcellana's "Divide By Two," Domingo made her first mainstream screen appearance in Jose Javier Reyes's "The Emma Salazar Case." She even went to the movie house to see herself on the big screen. "*Nung nakita ko yung sarili ko sa* screen, *sabi ko, ang pangit ko pala talaga. Hindi talaga siya artistahin, para siyang docu* (When I saw myself onscreen, I realized how ugly I really am. I'm not made for showbiz, maybe documentaries)."

The impressive procession of directors Domingo worked with on both stage and screen would continue. Domingo was tapped by Wenn Deramas to tickle the moviegoers' collective funny bone in Star Cinema's "*Ang Tanging Ina* The Movie." When Deramas brought the movie to the small screen, Domingo and her alter ego Rowena came along and still goes strong, now directed by Joyce Bernal.

Comic chemistry

It was also on "*Ang Tanging Ina*" that Domingo first teamed up with AiAi delas Alas, who can arguably be considered the poster girl for supporting players who have made it big. The pair's amazing comic chemistry, replete with adlibs and side comments galore, delighted audiences. It has also developed into a solid friendship between Domingo and Delas Alas, whom Domingo fondly calls "B.F." or best friend, something seen on the sitcom as well, real life and reel life in humorous harmony. "Click *kaagad*," she says.

Domingo readily admits to noticing the big difference in public recognition after her TV breakout, but she says that it's the job that matters to her. "For me, it's work, and I do it because it's expected, and I do it because I want to do it and do it right." All she wants are good projects, fun colleagues and good directors.

Aside from the obvious financial advantages, which she notes is a practical consideration, it boils down to whether or not she's enjoying herself. "Up to this day, *hindi ko pa rin ma*-compromise *yun, kahit bayaran mo ako ng malaking-malaki, pag hindi ako nag*-e-enjoy *dito, lalayas ako* (I still can't compromise the fact that, no matter what you pay me, if I'm not enjoying myself I'm leaving)."

It's that dedication, belied by her rambunctious personality, which makes her a director's dream. Andoy Ranay, who directs Domingo on "Marina," explains that Domingo "draws from her life experiences, and she's able to personify each character she plays. The way she interprets her characters makes her closer to the audience, and they take it as it is." He lauds Domingo's discipline: "It's her deeper knowledge of what she does, not just physically, but going to the heart of the character." Alex Cortez, who directed Domingo in two dramatic plays in UP, adds, "She's a natural—she doesn't have to try hard at all." Domingo, Cortez explains, is a true crossover success, moving from stage to TV, and says that Domingo will readily build on this foundation. Both Ranay and Cortez appreciate Domingo's candor and wackiness.

Now reaping the harvest of years of just plugging away, Domingo likes her current place in the acting firmament. "*Gusto ko talaga* character roles." She doesn't envy, for example, Delas Alas's massive mainstream ascent from support to headliner. "That comes with a problem—too much pressure."

Treasured trip

So, away from the camera, Domingo treasures her free time, watching DVDs, going out of town, visiting the spa. She definitely wants more time to read her books, as she complains that all she gets to read are the beginnings, no middles or endings. "I'm done with my self-help phase, I haven't even gotten to the 'Da Vinci Code' because it's still *uso*," she says, adding that she's currently going through books about the behind-the-scenes work on such American shows as "Will & Grace" and "Friends." She's fascinated by all aspects of productions, after all, and is always a student of the craft of acting. She'd like to have her own family someday, but for now she spends time with her two dogs, a Golden Retriever named Shakespeare and a Shihtzu named Praise. "Practice *na yan*," she says.

Work-wise, there is still stuff left to do. "I'd like to do a play, to balance things out and to have a good filmography." She'd like to do a musical again. At the moment, though she's much more in demand for TV, she'd like to do more films. What she really wants is to be another Charito Solis—not just Ina Magenta, but the late great's varied range of roles. She doesn't want to be Simang or Lorelei forever. "I'd love to have a movie that's shown every Holy Week. Something that becomes a ritual not only for Philippine cinema but for Filipino culture."

Though it would be nice to get awards, Domingo says it's reward enough when people approach her nicely in public and express how much they appreciate her work on TV. Whatever she winds up doing, she will never forget the magic of the footlights, as Domingo admits she misses the stage very much. "I can't compare *kasi iba yung respeto ko sa* TV and movies, but theater is really an actor's medium and it's different every night. Every performance, *iba*. The audience and the discipline are always different."

That same discipline is on display in any role that Domingo inhabits, regardless of medium, as it's what she believes is expected of professionals. She knows she's been blessed and lives up to it. "It's a gift from God, and you can't learn it in one night," she says. Eugene Domingo, actress for all mediums, humble servant of the thespian craft, a memorable character with a whopper of a personal story even without the necessity of a role, is enjoying herself, but never forgetting how she got here. "Discipline is normal for me," she explains. "It's something I want to share with younger actors or those older actors who may have forgotten it." Q

Sunday Inquirer Magazine · October 31, 2004
Vol. 18 No. 35 ISSN 0116-232X

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WINE BUFFET

Indulge in a buffet of fine wines featuring a selection from some of the best wine-producing countries such as Italy, Spain, Chile, Australia and the United States at the Lobby Lounge of Edsa Shangri-La. Complement these with a la carte menu of delicious snacks and desserts. For inquiries, call 634-7373 or 633-8888 ext. 2738. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

CREDIT CHECK

I am writing to express my indignation regarding the Pepe Smith T-shirt that Rico Blanco used on the cover of SIM last October 24, 2004.

The shirt was my creation since I worked for Rico Blanco and Rivermaya as a fashion stylist for several months. I am a young designer studying at the La Salle College International, a Canadian-based fashion school located in Legaspi Village Makati. Paul Smith is one of the designers I look up to very much, thus giving me the idea to create the shirt.

I also took the photograph of Rico Blanco from the music video shoot and I have the image file, hard copy and negatives to prove it.

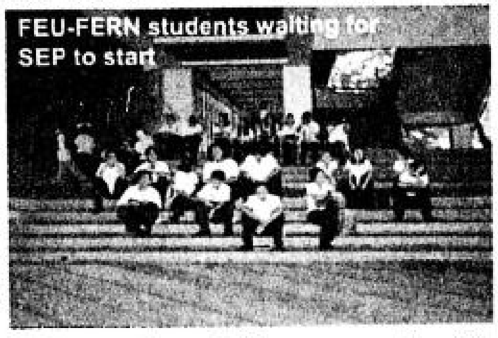
I'd like to request mention of this error as soon as possible since I think I am well within my rights to be credited for the use of my artistry. Thank you very much.

Niña E. Sandejas
2632 Dominga Street
Malate, Metro Manila

ATTENTION CONTRIBUTORS!

SIM strives to pay our valued contributors within three weeks of publication of an article or poem. However, to facilitate preparation of your fees — and to avoid an unnecessary trip! — please give the Cashier a call at tel. no. 897-8808 local 533 to confirm if your check is ready before visiting. Many thanks and keep them coming!

A New Breed of Young Entrepreneurs


FEU-FERN students waiting for SEP to start

April Reyes, Frandalyn Dela Cruz, Camille Eopella and Leslie Gura help out at the registration table

Mr. Butch Bartolome is awarded a certificate of recognition by SEP for his support of the project

Ms. Melissa Limcaoco receiving her certificate of recognition

Julie Carceller with the SEP students

A new breed of young entrepreneurs was discovered in the grounds of FEU-FERN College in Quezon City.

For the 650 college students of FEU-FERN, Organization Week is an event to look forward to. Through it, organizations are given a chance to raise the necessary funds to implement projects and activities. In this context, the SMART Entrepreneurial Program (SEP) was invited to sponsor a seminar on entrepreneurship. Like the past seminars of SEP, something special was again discovered about the dreams, passion, and motivation of its participants.

With the help of the program a Business Fair was organized. Booths were constructed to provide a venue for young university students to showcase their innovative business ideas. Medz Medina is a second year student from San Beda, one of the Universities invited to take part in the fair. She came to promote Pan De Beda, which her group started as a school project early this year. The success of their product, "the Meaty Fruity Pandesal," encouraged them to take this classroom innovation seriously. Now, they are planning to open a shop along Tomas Morato to cater to the demands of their supporters. The same story is behind the success of Vel –Cro, which Daniel Ferdinand Legaspi and his group invented. After being challenged by their professor to come up with an innovative product, they thought of capitalizing on the specialty of their home city, shoemaking. For only P800 you can get yourself a pair of Vel-Cro sneakers, which is already in demand outside the Philippines.

Here we see how more and more students are lured into entrepreneurship, partly due to the lack of employment but also because of the challenge, adventure, and monetary rewards. For the graduating class of FEU-FERN, they found their way to SEP not only because of their desire to be in business. Generally, they expected the seminar to help prepare them for the future. This need was addressed with the help of established businessmen like Mr. Butch Bartolome and Ms. Melissa Limcaoco who shared their own inspiring and practical tips on starting something of your own and then working to make it a success.

The achievements of the student entrepreneurs who were part of the Business Fair proved that whatever field you chose to be in, success will be yours as long as you put in the passion and dedication. An entrepreneurial spirit can take you places no matter what your age may be.

Flordeliza Dumalagang, OSA Coordinator

Julie Carceller, Head-key Relations Department of SMART, with the Vel-Cro group

Jay Abaday, Don Cobarrubias, Alvin Librero and Julius Pineda showing off "Chill", a mentholated fruity drink

SIM Swapping and Loading activities at the SMART Buddy booth

SMART Simply Amazing!

Medz Medina represents Pan de Beda at the Business Fair

SMART ENTREPRENEURIAL PROGRAM

Noel Ade, Agent Coordinator for Zamboanga, with Liberty Solis and SEP participants.

SMART ENTREPRENEURIAL PROGRAM
RESERVED
RESERVED
RESERVED

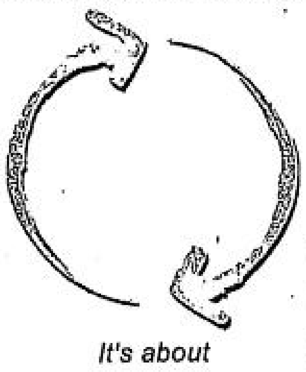
Students Set An Example

Manny on Entrepreneurship

"Businesses do transform societies. They not only shape our physical and our virtual worlds, but also create new needs, new hopes, and new dreams."

-- Manuel V. Pangilinan,
PLDT and SMART Chairman

It's not just about the innovations we bring...



It's about the opportunities we provide.

Life in Zamboanga for some college students is not so simple. To make ends meet, they must work while studying. But job opportunities in the area are limited, especially for non-graduates. It has been observed that juniors and seniors in universities are eagerly looking for that extra income that will help them through school.

The SMART Entrepreneurial Program was invited to Zamboanga to give a seminar on entrepreneurship. Three prominent universities gave their support to the project that will open its doors to 200 participants. That afternoon 206 attendees registered. 75% were graduates who have not yet found jobs. They came looking for alternative opportunities that will help them earn a living and found inspiration in the words of Ms. Grace Aduca and Mr. Roberto Valerio who expounded on starting your own business and making it work. Usually, a testimony is given by an established businessman to show the students that with the right attitude you can succeed as an entrepreneur, but on that day, it was given by two young entrepreneurs who have been working with SMART since April as student agents. This motivated the crowd even more because they realized entrepreneurship is for everybody who's willing to work hard to succeed.

SEP is currently being invited to more schools in Zamboanga in hopes of reaching more students. It has been delivering the same message since it was formally launched early this year. Opportunities are just around the corner, you must simply be willing to seize them. As entrepreneurs, we can create more opportunities for others and help our country grow.

People of the Faith

By Corazon A. Ong

An American Body, A Filipino Heart

FR. ARMAND "Pete" G. Carignan, Oblates of the Mary Immaculate (OMI), loves to say in jest that he became a priest to make up for having burned down a church in his youth.

Five of the eight Carignan boys—they were 12 in the family—were altar boys in their parish church in Dracut, Lowell, Massachusetts. On one occasion, while Armand and his brother, Robert, served as altar boys, Robert lit a candle that accidentally set the Christmas decorations afire. The flames spread quickly and soon, the whole church was on fire. This being the middle of winter, the firemen could get no water from the frozen hydrant so the church burned to the ground.

Although the boys were not punished for the accident, they got the fright of their lives. For some time, their father, Ernest, had to drive the priest to the local public school where Sunday Masses were temporarily held.

Recounts Fr. Carignan: "One of my great joys even at that age was to be in the front seat, while the priest in the backseat held the Blessed Sacrament." Such drives, no doubt, led him on the road to priesthood.

But it would be a long and arduous path.

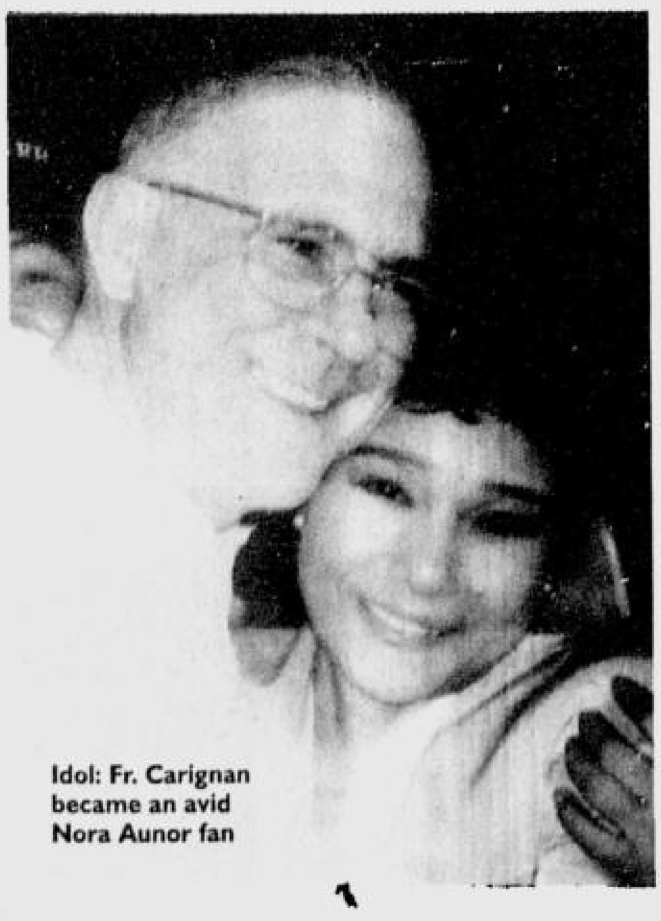
"We grew up during the Crash, a most difficult time—my father had $2,000 in the bank and overnight, it became $200," the Oblates priest recalls. "People had a hard time but the government also helped by giving free dinners to school children. We got day-old bread at a cheaper price. There were also food stamps and job projects for people."

Catholic school

Carignan's father was practically away the whole day working as a factory shoe-cutter, so it was left to his mother, Leona Bourque, to watch over and raise the children. "My mother was called the 'Silk Lady' in our neighborhood because she would always dress up properly and all of us children would be neatly dressed, as well," says Fr. Carignan. "My Dad wanted us to study at a public school nearby but my Mom insisted that we go to a Catholic school instead, which was quite far. In the end, she got her wish."

No doubt, his mother, who had a strong devotion to the Blessed Virgin, influenced his life's vocation. Being very close to her, Fr. Carignan found it difficult to say goodbye to her to take up his mission in the Philippines. He was, after all, only 27, and he was leaving everyone and everything dear and familiar for a place he knew nothing of. "I hugged her, gave her a big kiss and watched her walk away and disappear at the end of the hallway. She had looked at me as if to grasp my whole being and keep it forever. I was leaving for the Philippines and we knew we would not see each other for a long time."

Neither of them knew either that he would eventually call the Philippines home and earn the monicker "*Katawang Kano, Pusong Pinoy* (American body, Filipino heart). He would be in the country for good and became an avid Nora Aunor fan in the proecess.



Idol: Fr. Carignan became an avid Nora Aunor fan

It took Fr. Carignan 30 hours of flying time, including five refueling stops, to reach Manila on October 26, 1954. A few days later, he got his baptism of fire when he was given *balut* to eat with no clues as to what it was. "I spent the rest of the day trying to clear my throat of the feathers I imagined were still there," he recounts.

Fifty years ago, Fr. Pete Carignan was a young priest from Massachusetts arriving in an unknown land. Today, after bringing God to the most far-flung barrios of Mindanao, he considers the Philippines his home

An audience with Pope John Paul II during the canonization of St. Eugene de Mazenod in 1995

VICENTE CARREON

Other firsts

In his 50 years of missionary work in the country, there would be other firsts to come his way. He would experience his first *Simbang Gabi* (Midnight Mass) with "Jingle Bells" being sung in the background while he was distributing communion. He'd learn how to ride a horse without any saddle and land straight into a mud puddle. He'd learn how to drive a motorized bike in a basketball court and be humiliated in front of some 600 student-spectators as he "flipped over and went flying to the other side..."

Indeed, there were many falls and tumbles that would come his way, including a jeepney that fell into a swollen stream, but it was all worth it, Fr. Carignan says. He got to meet and befriend not only his parishioners but also the Moslems and other local tribes, like the B'laan and Tausug, whom he met when he travelled all over Mindanao, where he stayed the longest for 33 years. He had the rare privilege of saying the first Mass ever held in many far-flung areas in Mindanao.

In his autobiographical book, "Come Along—Glimpses Into The Life Journey of A Missionary in the Philippines," Fr. Carignan describes one such experience in Lampagang, one of the 30 barrios comprising the town of Tulunan in Cotabato. "Lampagang was about eight kilometers from the highway, straight into the mountains. B'laan tribes had lived there for ages, and now Christian settlers had come in, built a chapel and were requesting for a Mass. That this would be the first Mass, the first time that the Son of God would offer His life to the Father in this place since creation, was very touching to me."

Zero in on education

As part of the Oblate pioneers in Mindanao and along with the Marist Brothers, Fr. Carignan had a hand in increasing the number of schools in the area. "There used to be only one high school covering Cotabato, Gen. Santos and Kidapawan and all the students—the very good and the very bad—were all mixed together. What was needed we thought was to have one high school in every parish so we zeroed in on education," he says. At present, the Oblates have set up 110 Notre Dame high schools and 10 colleges in Cotabato and Sulu as well as two universities, one each in Marbel and Cotabato. During his stint in Mindanao, Fr. Carignan was also instrumental in setting up nine parishes with one Filipino priest each.

Fr. Carignan's first assignment in the country was as assistant priest in Banga, Cotabato where on his first Sunday, while standing outside the parish veranda, he would say, almost prophetically: "What a gigantic task lies ahead of me." He was young and full of enthusiasm so he did not really mind if the parish had no screens to ward off mosquitoes (he once caught malaria), no running water and he either had to walk or ride a horse for hours on unfamiliar and rough terrain to say Mass in the barrios.

But say Mass he did not only in the barrios of Banga but also in his next posts—Glan, M'lang, Tulunan, Libungan, Salaman, Lebak, Alamada, Kidapawan, Makilala and Carmen (all located in Cotabato)—never mind if his schedule was a backbreaking one, to say the least. He'd often say Mass in one barrio on Friday afternoon, another Mass in another barrio on Saturday morning, then on to another barrio in the afternoon and two more barrios on Sunday. On weekdays, Fr.Carignan's time was mostly spent supervising the Notre Dame high school and teaching English and Religion.

In his long years of service in Mindanao, not once did he feel he was unwelcome nor was his life threatened. "The Moslems respected our religion and I got along well with them. In fact, until now, I have some Moslem friends." But in 1973, while assigned in Lebak, he witnessed the six-month Moslem uprising against the government. It was, no doubt, a trying time for both the Christian and Moslem communities who had been living peacefully in the parish before the uprising occurred. The church building in Lebak became the temporary refuge of the Moslem women and children who evacuated there for safety.

New posts

In between his assignments in Cotabato, Fr. Carignan was also sent for three years to serve in the Visayas, mostly in Bacolod. He was glad that while in Cotabato, he was able to learn not only how to speak Tagalog but also Ilonggo and Cebuano, a skill which became handy for his new post.

In 1992, he came full circle by going back to Manila—his first stop in 1954—when he was assigned to be the parochial vicar of Our Lady of Grace Church in Caloocan City. He had initially been offered the post as director of the Missionary Association of Mary Immaculate (MAMI), whose office is located in the parish compound. "I was reluctant to take it because I had spent most of my priesthood in the mountains as a missionary and had no knowledge whatsoever about administrative work," he says.

But two years after, he finally accepted the MAMI directorship, a post he currently holds. The job involves not only prayers, novenas and administrative work but also forming close linkages with the MAMI staff and promoters—parishioners who spend time promoting parish activities and projects, among them selling all-occasion spiritual cards made by the Oblates. Proceeds from the cards finance the Oblates' missionary work here and abroad. MAMI centers are also found in Cebu, Bacolod, Iloilo, Davao, Dipolog, Cotabato, Dagupan City and Vigan, places which Fr. Carignan visits for yearly recollections and retreats among its members and promoters.

In 1995, a MAMI delegation attended the canonization of St. Eugene de Mazenod, founder of the Oblates order, in Rome and along with a few others, Fr. Carignan had a special audience with Pope John Paul II, an event which he considers one of his life's highlights.

In marking his 50th year of service in the country, Fr. Carignan has this brief message: "I thank God with all my heart for having given me the mission to be in the Philippines. As a young priest, I practically grew up among the Filipino people, whom I love. They are a part of my heart and my life and I pray for them day and night. The Philippines is now my home." Q

For inquiries on religious items and the all-occasion cards, you may contact the MAMI office at 364-5603, 364-8060 or 361-7636.

Twists of Fate

By Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz

The Filipino Master and His Signorina

ROMY HOMILLADA

She was a young Italian girl swept off her feet by Filipino modern artist Diosdado Lorenzo. Today, at age 90 and with a full life lived in the Philippines, Lina Paolini Lorenzo is a living bridge between the two cultures that shaped her life

SHE WAS in love, and it didn't matter that he was from the other side of the world and that her parents would have nothing to do with him.

"He was very kind," recalls Lina Paolini Lorenzo of the brown-skinned stranger she used to bump into in the stairway of this building in Rome, Italy. It was the early '30s and the 16-year-old *signorina* was learning to play the piano while the Filipino student, Diosdado Lorenzo, was taking up a painting course in the building.

The two would soon become a couple despite her parents' fears, and move to the Philippines just before the Second World War. After decades of being ignored for being "too modern" when the accepted painting style at that time was representational and photographic, Lorenzo in 1970 would be named a Republic Heritage Awardee for the arts, the equivalent of today's National Artist honors. When he died in 1984, his widow chose to stay in the country she has learned to call her own. Today, at 90, *Signora* Lorenzo still works as secretary general of the Philippine Italian Association, actively bridging the two cultures that have shaped her life.

Things did not seem as promising at the start.

Before the war, very few Italians had met a Filipino, and fewer still knew where the Philippines was. Diosdado, *Lola* Lina recalls, would often hoist up a map and point out the tiny archipelago when people asked. But impressions about a savage land and its people lingered. A week before she and her beau got married, recalls the *signora*, an Italian magazine featured a Filipino aborigine, and her friends came running to her, fearing for her future.

Disapproving parents

The second of four siblings born to an Italian coffee importer who also owned a grocery, Lina Paolini came from a conservative family. Although she completed piano in 1932 at a conservatory in Rome, she did not practice her course. "One artist in the family was enough," she thought then, the other artist being her Lorenzo. But her parents thought little of this unknown artist from a distant land and disapproved of the match.

Determined to make a life together, the couple courted the Paolini elders until they gave in. "They had to like him," *Lola* Lina recounts. "He was very diplomatic and spoke fluent Italian after staying in the country for six years. He also finished his art course with honors."

In 1933, they got married in Rome, and a year later, baby in tow, the Lorenzos set sail for the Philippines. It took a whole month to travel by sea at that time, and the conditions onboard were not very reassuring to the young bride. "I didn't know where I was going, but," she shrugs, "when love comes to a person…"

En route to the Philippines, the ship stopped at Ceylon (now known as Sri Lanka) where Mrs. Lorenzo moseyed around the market. "It was terrible! There were flies hovering over the *cariba* (*panucha*) and people were spitting on the ground. It was red and I thought, TB!" Tuberculosis was the scourge at that time, much like AIDS today. When a man offered to help her carry her infant, the young mother refused, fearing contamination. Confiding her fears to her husband, she was relieved to be told that the red spittle came not from TB-ravaged lungs but from the betel nut that the natives chewed.

The trip was long and had several stops along the way, including one in India where the poverty was apparent. Why, the young bride wondered, did conditions seem to worsen the farther they were from Genova, Italy? "But I couldn't turn back anymore. I already had a baby," says Mrs. Lorenzo.

Arriving in Manila was a pleasant change, however. "Manila was much better then. People had a Spanish education, and the well-to-do were very educated. Men put on their coat even at home before they went to meet their guests."

But when the couple traveled to Nueva Ecija, Lorenzo's hometown, his missus again puzzled over some strange sights. Why were the natives eating wood? she thought. Later, she would learn that they were biting into sugar cane. It took her a while to adjust to the food ("It was my first time to eat catfish," she recalls), but until now, she confesses, she has yet to get used to the typhoons that visit the country frequently.

Everywhere she went, she was received royally, partly because in the '30s, a foreign bride was such a novelty. Her good looks didn't hurt, either. Being Italian helped as well during the war years. With Italy among the Axis nations, the Japanese were generally courteous and respectful, recalls the *signora*, although they did have to evacuate to the countryside and bury their jewelry and Diosdado's paintings to escape the invaders' covetous eye. Towards the end of the war, she recounts, their group had mistakenly entered a forbidden zone in Isabela. The Japanese soldiers rounded them up, lined them in a row and slapped them one by one. After being slapped by a soldier, the young Mrs. Lorenzo cursed him back in Italian and surprisingly, got away with it. "I was very lucky," she admits now.

New idioms

Such luck did not hold out when it came to her husband's painting career, however. "He was one of the first moderns along with Victor Edades, Galo Ocampo and Botong Francisco," says Sandro Villaraza, of his grandfather. But in the '20s and '30s, people were enamored with the photographic realism and idyllic style of such artists as Fernando Amorsolo, and thought little about the modernists who wanted to develop new idioms to express themselves.

FAMILY PHOTO COLLECTION

A new home: Arriving in Manila in 1934 with Diosdado and firstborn Emilio

Disgusted with the local market ("My husband said he would never paint to please the people," says *Signora* Lorenzo), the artist tried his luck in Hongkong in 1935, where he established the Accademia di Belle Arti. His wife followed a year later, but had to rush back to her children because of a cholera epidemic. Diosdado Lorenzo soldiered on for another year in the British colony before coming home.

Over the years, Lorenzo's art slowly gained acceptance, especially when he and several of his colleagues established the Thirteen Moderns, composed of himself, Victor Edades, Botong Francisco, Galo Ocampo, Vicente Manansala, Hernando Ocampo, Cesar Legaspi, Demetrio Diego, Bonifacio Cristobal, Jose Pardo, Arsenio Capili, Ricarte Purugganan and Anita Magsaysay-Ho. Lorenzo's paintings soon found their way to the National Museum, the Metropolitan Museum, the Cultural Center of the Philippines and in private art collections. The artist died in 1984. He was 78.

His widow, who has learned to speak Tagalog like a native, still nurtures the Italian in her. The Secretary General of the Philippine-Italian Association for the past 42 years has recently been knighted by the Italian government for having done more than her share to popularize the Italian way. The Philippine-Italian Association organizes events to showcase Italian food, music and culture (this year's Notte Italiana is scheduled on Nov. 17), offers language courses, translates documents in Italian, lends out Italian costumes, and works to strengthen the ties that bind the two countries. The Pigafetta monument in Cebu and Juan Luna's statue at the entrance of Intramuros were both donated by the Association to the Philippine government.

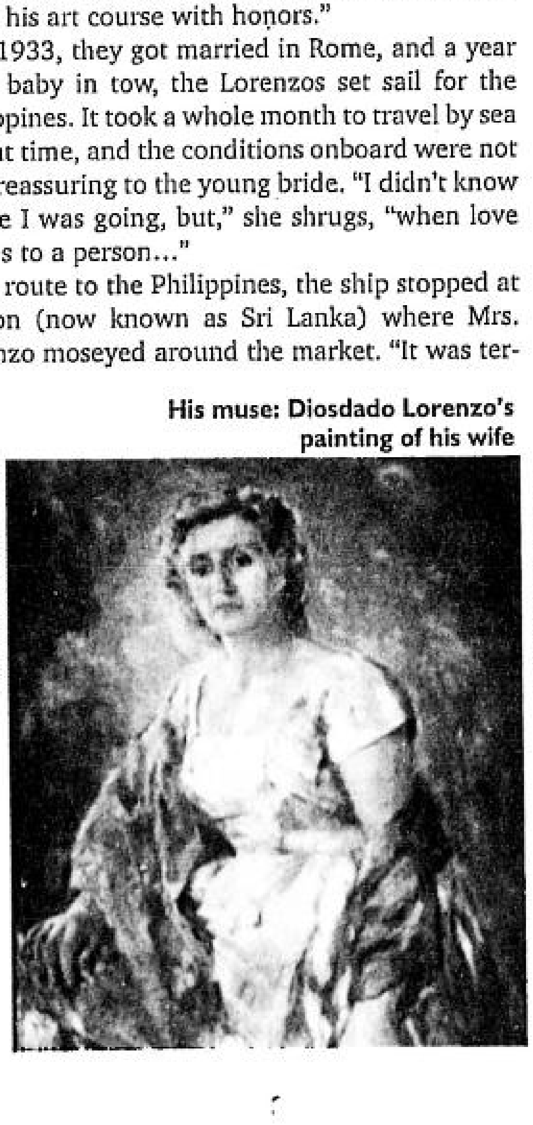
Sunday lunch

With 12 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren, *Lola* Lina Lorenzo looks to Sunday lunch at her home in Sta. Mesa Heights to savor the memories of having raised a Fil-Italian family. Looking back at her full life, she decides that her happiest memory was when she and her late husband visited Italy in 1976 to go back to the small chapel where they were wed. Afterwards, one of her sisters (all her siblings have since died), surprised them with a celebration at the same restaurant where they originally held their wedding reception.

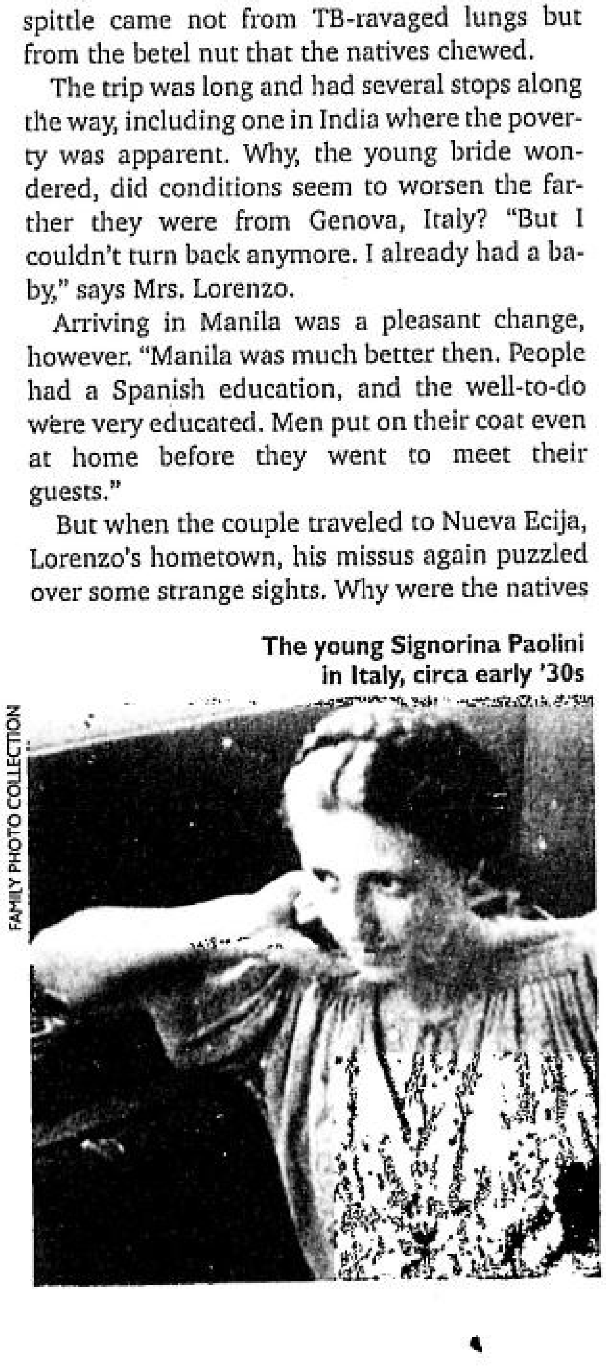
Her saddest memory, she confides, was the death of her fourth child, Mario, who was only 17 then. "He was a very bright student but he had kidney failure and there were yet no dialysis machines at that time." Her other grown-up children are: Emilio, a general surgeon; Enrico, who's into business; Mariella, who owns a travel agency, and Paolo who has a construction firm.

But otherwise, says *Lola* Lina, she has no regrets. And no unfulfilled dreams either. "When you're 90, you live for the day because you don't know what tomorrow brings. You enjoy the moment."

His muse: Diosdado Lorenzo's painting of his wife


FAMILY PHOTO COLLECTION

The young Signorina Paolini in Italy, circa early '30s


FAMILY PHOTO COLLECTION

Music Makers

By Eric S. Caruncho

Cebu's Spokesman of Reggae

QUEZON AVENUE

Rude bai: Budoy ponders his next move

RAFFY LERMA

Rude boy - noun; (In Jamaica) a lawless urban youth who likes ska or reggae music

The New Oxford Dictionary of English

WATCH out, Yoyoy Villame.

There's a new kid in town, and his name is Budoy. And if all goes right, Budoy and his band, Jr. Kilat, just might be Cebu's next big export, after dried mangoes and *danggit*.

Huh?

I was just as flabbergasted as anyone else to learn that Cebu had a huge, homegrown reggae music scene.

"Even the street kids sing Bob Marley songs," reported Tropical Depression's Dominic "Papadom" Gamboa, long-time promoter of all things reggae, fresh from a concert tour of Cebu to promote "Island Riddims," a CD compilation of local reggae bands. Significantly, three of them are from Cebu, and two from Cebuano-speaking Dumaguete.

"The jeepneys are painted in the Jamaican tricolor," he adds. "And you can buy tams from street vendors." (Tams are the colorful knit bonnets that Jamaican rastas wear to keep their dreadlocks in check.)

Island music

More significantly, there are weekly reggae programs on Cebu radio stations; and reggae concerts are huge events drawing upwards of 20 bands and audiences numbering in the thousands. For the past 10 years, Bob Marley's death anniversary has been observed in Cebu with a massive open-air concert that usually lasts until dawn the next day.

What gives?

Like Jamaica, Cebu is an island with its own insular culture, and it could be that one island's culture is more palatable to another.

"In the Camotes Islands, there is a guitar style called *kinablit*, which has a Caribbean feel," says Budoy, Errol Maraviles in real life, who is in Manila to sign Jr. Kilat's record deal with Galaxy Records.

That's right, Budoy will soon be going nationwide. With his crooked "Cat in the Hat" hat, his Urusei Yatsura print shirt and baggy shorts, Budoy cuts a surreal figure, but he's also steeped in esoteric Visayan culture, like that tidbit about *kinablit*, which makes him the ideal spokesman for the Cebu reggae scene. In fact, Budoy is something of a cult figure among his home-*bais*.

Apart from his performances with Jr. Kilat (which means *kidlat* or lightning), he also hosts a weekly TV show on RCTV, a Metro Cebu cable station, called "Small Time," in which he interviews people running small businesses in Cebu. His Manila analogue would be someone like "Strangebrew's" Tado, straddling sub- and mainstream cultures.

Jr. Kilat also stands apart from the rest of the Cebu reggae bands, many of which are simply cover bands doing the usual Bob Marley numbers. Aside from doing all-original material in Budoy's idiosyncratic Cebuano, which incorporates slang, coinages and a smattering of his native Waray tongue, Jr. Kilat also bases its sound on dub, rather than straight reggae.

What, pray tell, is dub? Gather round, kids, and I'll tell ye.

Reggae, of course, is Jamaica's musical style blending native Caribbean forms and American rhythm and blues. Its most characteristic feature is the eccentric accent on the afterbeat, rather than the downbeat as is usual in Western pop music: Boom-CHIKA-boom-CHIKA-boom, you get it.

In the late '60s and early '70s, Jamaican record producers would take a song, strip off the vocals, in effect making a minus-one, add echo, reverb, and other studio trickery, and release the result as a "dub" plate or a "version." With its subsonic bass, ghostly echoes, and occasional disembodied voices drifting in and out of the mix, dub soon became a genre all its own, appealing specially to aficionados freshly baked on ganja.

Reggae is hot in Cebu, and this band's version sounds like a cross between Jamaica's Lee 'Scratch' Perry and Yoyoy Villame

Soon, club DJs discovered that they could add their own live, improvised vocals over the dub track. This was called "toasting," a practice which made its way to the US and evolved into rap. The dub producer's bag of studio tricks was also instrumental in the evolution of techno, and all subsequent electronic dance music.

Dub poetry

In the late '70s, a transplanted Jamaican poet and activist based in England named Linton Kwesi Johnson created what he called "dub poetry," releasing several albums of his harangues against the oppressive racist system set to dub.

Which brings us back to Budoy.

"I started in the early '90s with my band Raw Belief, which was the first reggae band in Cebu," he says. "*Nawala ang* reggae, *tapos bumalik*. (Reggae disappeared then made a comeback). Maybe because of the work of Jah People Society, the group that organized the first Bob Marley Day concert."

Reggae fans in Cebu eventually organized themselves into Harambe, a loose collective.

"Harambe is a Swahili word meaning 'working together,' *pagtambayoyong* in Cebuano, like the bayanihan," explains Budoy. "Every year, we observe Bob Marley Day and Rasta Claus, our annual Christmas concert where people pay for tickets with donations of rice or old clothes or anything that we can distribute to the urban poor."

After Raw Belief, which had a few Cebuano songs, Budoy formed another band called Urbal, with primarily English lyrics. And then he discovered Linton Kwesi Johnson's dub poetry, paving the way for Jr. Kilat and Cebuano dub.

"I was shocked to find that the reggae scene in Cebu has grown so big," he says in Filipino. "People flock to watch reggae bands and gigs, ordinary people."

He was as shocked, he adds, to find that people in Manila like Jr. Kilat even if the lyrics of their songs are in Cebuano. But, he observes, "Reggae has a more mass appeal in Cebu. *Masa ang* crowd. *Dito, sosyal*. So the scene in Cebu's kinda different. There are more people watching and anybody can come."

Jr. Kilat's music has been described as "Lee Scratch Perry meets Yoyoy Villame." Perry is one of the best-known dub producers in Jamaica, and Yoyoy is, of course, along with Max Surban, the reigning king of Cebuano pop and originator of the novelty single.

"I also listen to Yoyoy," says Budoy. "Of course, he is already part of our culture. I've met him," he adds, with a small measure of pride. "He listened to our songs and he liked them."

Signature song

Jr. Kilat's signature number is titled "Original Sigbin," which means original Visayan, says Budoy. "Jr. Kilat is Jr. Kilat because of our Visayan lyrics, not necessarily Cebuano, because I sometimes use Waray."

In fact, Budoy traces his roots to Laoang, Northern Samar. One of his grade school teachers introduced him to the Waray traditions of *luwa and siday*. These are forms of improvised folk poetry performed during fiestas. As in the Tagalog *balagtasan* (poetry joust), a theme is chosen and the contestants improvise spoken or sung lyrics on the theme, much like the rap battles in "8 Mile," with the most eloquent and the wittiest winning the contest.

Given this background, Cebuano dub isn't that much of a stretch after all. "Of course, my lyrics are different because my environment is urban," says Budoy.

One song, "Hala Suyop," describes local shabu addicts who resort to selling off their household goods, including the LPG tank, for a fix. "They think they're being cool, but they're the victims," says Budoy. Unfortunately, this anti-drug song was widely misinterpreted and was actually banned in Dumaguete and Davao.

Banned in Dumaguete! Now there's an auspicious beginning for a band.

Another song, "*Katyubong*," describes the effects of the *katyubong*, which is Cebuano for *talampunay* or angel's trumpet, a wildflower with wildly hallucinogenic effects.

Another song, "*Lantsiao Gimadkaw*," is puzzling even for Cebuanos, until they learn that *lantsiao* is Chinese for "penis," which is that part of a bull that goes into the reputed aphrodisiac "Soup No. 5." In the song, Budoy speculates what would happen if the source of "Soup No. 5" had the "Mad Cow" disease.

And so on. At present, Jr. Kilat is an eight-piece band with a full-time trombone player and a turntablist, and sounds like no other band in the country. Non-Cebuanos will soon be getting a taste of Jr. Kilat with the upcoming release of their first album, a live concert recording, by Galaxy Records. Since dub is primarily a studio form, a studio recording is also in the works.

Now if we could only get decent *balbacoa* in Manila.

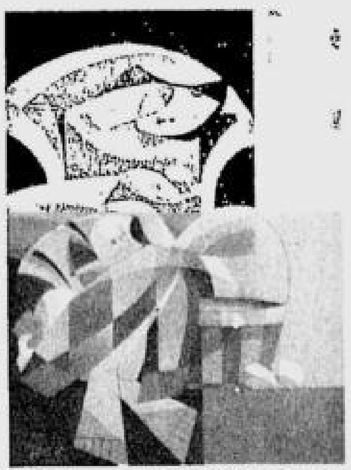
This Week

Art

Mood and Dreams in Cheese presents Agáng Maganda's signature surrealism, until Nov. 5 at Gallery Nine, 4/L, SM Megamall A.

Images on Paper, an exhibit of santos on charcoal and pastel by Rafael Del Casal until Nov. 7 at Finale Art Gallery, 4/L, SM Megamall A.

New Works in Oil, still life paintings from Didit Robillo van der Linden's collections of artifacts and folk art crafts. Until Nov. 9 at the Mag:net Gallery, The Loop, ELJ Center, ABS-CBN Compound, Lopez Drive, QC. Tel. 410-0995


"Mother and Child" by Ernie Sta. Ana, exhibit ongoing at the Shangri-La Plaza Mall

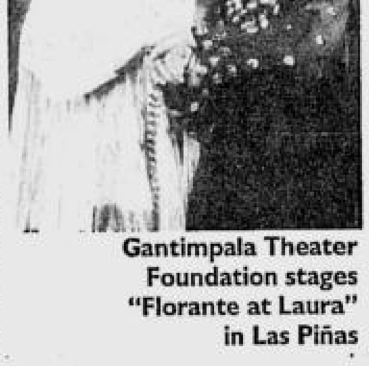
Mother and Child exhibit-sale of artworks by Manansala, Joya, Jose Blanco, Malang, Baldemor, Romulo Olazo, Nemiranda, Janice Young, Fil de la Cruz, among others. From Nov. 10-21 at the Shangri-La Plaza Mall. For details, call 815-4938.

The Whole World and an Entire Life, black and white paper works and sculptural and installation pieces by Wire Tuazon, until Nov. 16 at The Drawing Room, G/F Metrostar Building, Metropolitan Avenue, Makati City.

Music

The **UP Faculty, Alumni and Friends Chorale Ensemble** will present a concert in honor of the late Professor Maria Teresa Y. Salas Tan on Nov. 6, 6:30 p.m. at the UP Diliman Aldaba Hall. The concert will be conducted by Leo Mar Edralin and pianist will be April Sta. Maria. For details, call 926-1572, 981-8500 locals 2549, 2550.

The Cultural Center of the Philippines will present the world-renowned **Vienna Boys' Choir** from Austria in a **back-to-back concert with the Loboc Children's Choir** on Nov. 9, 8 p.m. at the Aliw Theater in Star City, CCP Complex. Tickets available at Ticketnet (991-5555), Ticketworld at National Bookstore and Tower Records (891-9999 and CCP Box Office (832-3704).


Gantimpala Theater Foundation stages "Florante at Laura" in Las Piñas

Toyota Motor Philippines presents the **15th Toyota Classics: A World of Harmony** featuring the Brno Philharmonic Orchestra, at the Teatro Aguinaldo on Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. Ticket proceeds will be donated to the Pondo ng Pinoy Community Foundation Inc. The orchestra will perform an all-Antonin Dvorak program as a tribute to Czech composer's centennial death anniversary. Tickets available at Ticketworld outlets in major National Bookstore branches, Robinsons Department Store (Malate and Galleria), Tower Records, Music Museum or call 891-5610.

Onstage

Robert Signey is cast in Gantimpala Theater Foundation's *komedya* ***Florante at Laura*** as the villain Conde Adolfo with performances on Nov. 5-6 at RFC Cinema in Las Piñas. The Filipino theater form is performed in 399 12-syllable quatrains, and includes the elements of the *marcha, paso doble, pingkian* and *battalla*. Signey will be seen next in **Ten Times Ten**, a collection of ten 10-minute plays on the theme of love in its various forms, which will premiere on Nov. 26-27 at Nicotina Garden Pavilion, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City. For inquiries, call 724-1762.

Food

The Pearl Farm Beach Resort in Samal Island, Davao will launch **"Flavors of Spain,"** featuring Spanish gourmet dishes from Nov. 13-30. The veritable moving feast will also be held at Club Punta Fuego from Nov. 19-30 and Terrazas de Punta Fuego from Dec. 10-19. For inquiries, call Pearl Farm at (02) 750-1896/98 or (082)221-9971/76.

Atbp.

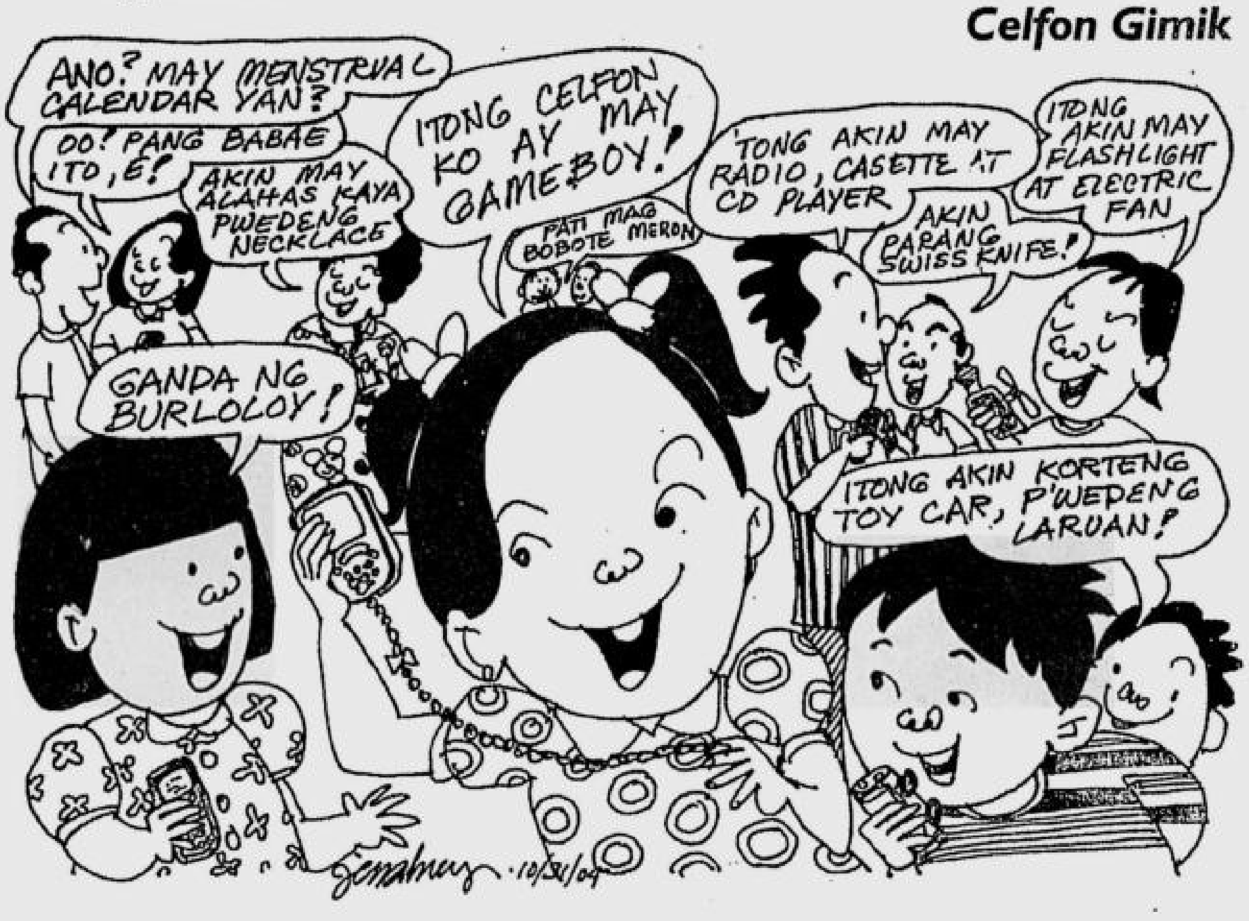
The UP National Institute of Geological Sciences and the Mapua Institute of Technology and Adamson University, are sponsoring Geofest 2004 from Nov. 3-5 at NIGS, College of Science, UP Diliman. **Geofest 2004** will showcase a geology museum that includes an extensive collection of rocks, minerals and fossils from around the world. There will also be short lectures on such topics as dinosaurs, volcanoes earthquakes and gemstones as well as activities such as map reading and mineral identification. All activities are free for students. For reservations, call 929-6046 and 924-3077.

A **Basic Video Production seminar-workshop** will be held on Nov. 6, 9 a.m. at the ACCM Building, 102 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City. Seminar fee is P1,495 inclusive of snacks, certificate and course handouts. For inquiries, call 829-5711.

Pinoy Nga!

By Jess Abrera

Celfon Gimik

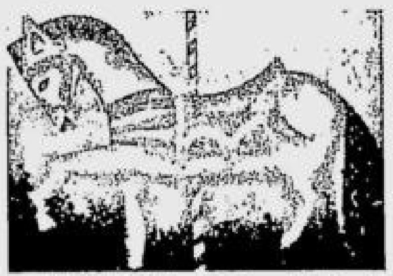

ANO? MAY MENSTRUAL CALENDAR YAN?
OO! PANG BABAE ITO, E!
AKIN MAY ALAHAS KAYA PWEDENG NECKLACE
ITONG CELFON KO AY MAY GAMEBOY!
PATI MAG BOBOTE MERON
'TONG AKIN MAY RADIO, CASETTE AT CD PLAYER
ITONG AKIN MAY FLASHLIGHT AT ELECTRIC FAN
AKIN PARANG SWISS KNIFE!
GANDA NG BURLOLOY!
ITONG AKIN KORTENG TOY CAR, P'WEDENG LARUAN!
10/31/04

For this week's bands and schedules call:
- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

The Communication Foundation for Asia offers **Creative Media Tutorials on Web Design** (Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27) **and Non-Linear Editing** (Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26) at the CFA Computer Laboratory, 4427 Interior Old Sta. Mesa. The seminar is open to all NGOs, parishes and computer enthusiasts. For inquiries, call 714-7233 or 713-2981 loc. 407.

A series of **basic and advanced photography courses** are being offered by the Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation in coordination with the Intramuros Administration on Nov. 7. Lecturers are Vic Sison, Ador Pamintuan, Tony Raval, Prof. Cecilia Angeles, Ed Santiago and Tilak Hettige. For inquiries, call 843-5341 and 813-7420.


Didit Robillo van der Linden's "Carousel Horse," on view at the Mag:net Gallery

The **6th UP Film and Video Festival** is now accepting entries in 16mm film or VHS, VCD, and DVD formats. The festival is from Dec. 13-17 with the awarding ceremonies scheduled on Dec. 17 at 2:30 p.m. at the Balay Balinaw (Ikeda International Hall) in the UP Diliman Campus, QC. Entries can vie in four categories: narrative, experimental, documentary and animation. Deadline for submission of entries is on Dec. 1, 5:30 p.m. to Ms. Marty Paz of UP-OICA or to Ms. Fortune Mendiola of the UP Film Institute Academic Office. Entry forms and competition mechanics are available from the UP-OICA Office located at the basement of the Vargas Museum along Roxas St. UP Diliman Campus (tel. 928-1928) or at the UP Film Institute Academic Office (tel. 920-6863).

Faber-Castell Philippines will start accepting entries for the first **Sining Award in Art Education** on Nov. 3 which aims to recognize outstanding art teachers in the elementary level. Qualified for nomination are elementary visual arts mentors, in both public or private schools, from the NCR, Region III and Region IV-A who have shown effectiveness in teaching visual arts to elementary pupils and have contributed to the development and promotion of art education in their respective communities. Submit nomination form, teacher's performance evaluation form, and a letter of recommendation. To secure nomination forms, contact the following: Faber-Castell Sining Award Secretariat at (02) 3740755 to 56; Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines National Office (02) 9275137; and the DepEd Division Office/Regional Office c/o Art Supervisors. Deadline of submission is Jan. 15, 2005. Submit entries to the Faber-Castell Sining Award Secretariat at 127 A. Roces Avenue cor. Tomas Morato, Quezon City. For inquiries, email jebarle@mozcom.com or siningawards@fcphilippines.com.

The Artist Abroad

By Luis H. Francia

No More Years!

Why is the Philippines one of only three countries in the world who'd rather keep George Bush than have John Kerry? Is it because Filipinos don't see the disastrous results of Dubya's reign of terror?

Kerry on the campaign trail

AP PHOTO

NEW York—In a poll of 35 countries taken last July and August by GlobeScan research organization, only citizens of Poland, Nigeria, and the Philippines favored George W. Bush over John F. Kerry. India and Thailand were evenly divided, but the rest of the countries went for Kerry by more than a two-to-one margin: 46 percent to 20 percent. In Italy and Great Britain, whose leaders have backed Bush's war on Iraq, people preferred Kerry 58 percent to 14 percent and 47 percent to 16 percent, respectively. You could say Kerry passes the global test. But not where Filipinos are concerned: They would rather keep Bush (57 percent) than have Kerry (32 percent). The poll's premise must surely be that since the world's sole superpower has such an impact on the world, the views of its citizens matter though, alas, they carry no electoral weight in the U.S.

Why do we constitute one of only three countries whose citizens would, if they could, vote for Bush? Is it because most Filipinos don't see firsthand the disastrous results of Dubya's reign of error? In four critical areas alone, his administration has made a fine mess of things: 1) Iraq: The justifications for the war proved to be false, rendering the casualties there senseless; American occupation of Iraq has instead become a magnet for jihadists. 2) The economy: The huge budget surplus achieved by the Clinton administration has turned into a whopping deficit. Total government debt stands at $7.4 trillion. Obsessed with tax cuts for the wealthy (whom he famously calls "my base"), Bush is the first American president since Herbert Hoover to wind up his term with fewer jobs than when he began. 3) The environment: Environmental regulations have been weakened; air quality alone has gotten worse while research on alternative fuels is minimal, with former industry officials now the foxes guarding the coop at the Environmental Protection Agency. Additionally, the Bush administration has withdrawn from the Kyoto Protocol, treating global warming as a theory, a disturbing sign of its divorce from reality. 4) Civil liberties: Constitutional rights have come under unprecedented assault from a government wrapped in Nixonian suspicion of dissent—hugely ironic, given that the Bush administration has cast the Iraq folly as a template for democratic change--and whose legal minds have justified the use of torture on alleged terrorists.

Maybe the same reasons that Filipinos voted overwhelmingly for former President Estrada are at play here: folksy affability, a seemingly benign paternalism, and machismo; I am afraid the Bush-leaning Filipinos mirror a similar sentiment among Filipino voters in the U.S., more so perhaps among the older generation than their offspring. Why however would a good number of Filipino immigrants go for an administration that hurts their interests and has betrayed the middle-and working classes? As an example of Bush's wrongheaded policies, I noted in an earlier column how more Filipinos have been deported under this administration than any other one that I can recall.

Of course, a significant segment of the Filipinos here have their roots in military service—armed forces personnel usually vote Republican. And then there's 9/11 and the ensuing culture of fear, continually stoked by the Bush administration, whose boy keeps crying wolf (and-Rummy-and-Dick-and-Condi)—fear stoked by terror alerts that seem never to be backed up by on-the-ground intelligence. And fear, arising out of the visceral, preempts rational thinking, which leads in turn to a shoot-first-ask-questions-later policy, Iraq being Prime Exhibit A. Fear trumps other factors as well, whether the state of the economy or the sagacity and veracity of a leadership, whose blind arrogance allows no admission of mistakes. Fear is exactly why the Bush administration keeps tying Iraq to Al-Qaeda, even when its own intelligence services have debunked this notion decisively, and why it has portrayed Kerry as a leader unable to make America safe, in the process shamelessly maligning his patriotism and turning his bravery during the Vietnam War into a liability. Avoiding the sunlight of reality, Bush and his posse live in a narrow, make-believe world, resembling the character in Alice in Wonderland who insists a word mean what he wants it to mean.

Another factor as to why many Filipino immigrants will go for Bush: The persistence of the colonial hangover that is, to paraphrase that famous quote, part Hollywood, part convent education. The iconic American immortalized on the silver screen (and now laughed at elsewhere) is still revered by a great number of Pinoys: the lonesome cowboy whose vocabulary may be limited (is in fact expected to be limited) but whose charm and heart are both expansive and generous and who dispenses justice with a few, well-chosen bullets. The ending always has him, by now a mythical figure, riding into the sunset, glorious in victory.

But perhaps the most frightening aspect of a second Bush term will be the continuing erosion of the line separating church from state. A Christian with literal views of the Bible (he believes the jury is still out on evolution), Bush presents himself as someone chosen by God for a mission. If you believe you're acting on God's behalf, how can you go wrong? How can anyone question your acts? Isn't this what the Taliban profess as well (they're still in Afghanistan, in case you didn't know)? Isn't this what fundamentalists of all stripes (Christian, Muslim, Jewish) live by? What Osama Bin Laden—still on the loose—believes?

Any type of evangelical government disturbs me. But an evangelical government that, in addition, cares little for human rights, the environment, for the disadvantaged, that views war as a divine instrument; an administration that, for all its religiosity, has a heart of darkness and is led by a man who doesn't read, disdains facts, and eschews moral complexities—this kind of government terrifies me. Two days from now I'll cast my vote for Kerry, who may not be the ideal replacement for Bush but he's a great deal better than the dogma-afflicted, linguistically challenged missionary-in-residence.

SMART GOLD
Singapore

october 04

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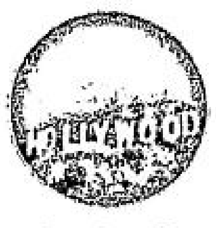

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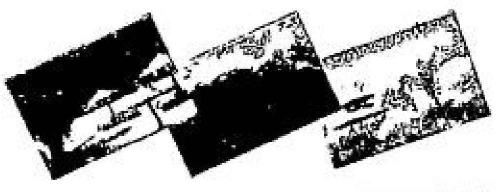

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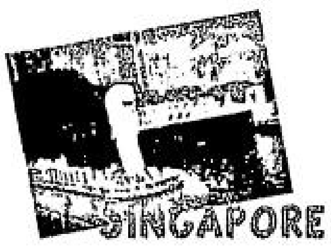

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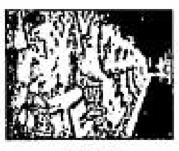
MMS

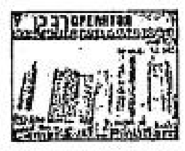


FLYW1

FLYW12

Text **MMS** <keyword> to 291.

PHONE THEMES



SINGAPORE

LASVEGAS

Text **THEME** <keyword> to 291.

Text FLY to 291

PROMO PERIOD: SEPTEMBER 4 to NOVEMBER 30, 2004.
See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4510, Series of 2004.

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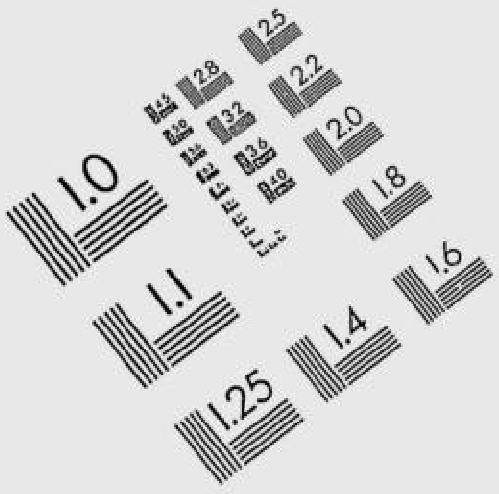
IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)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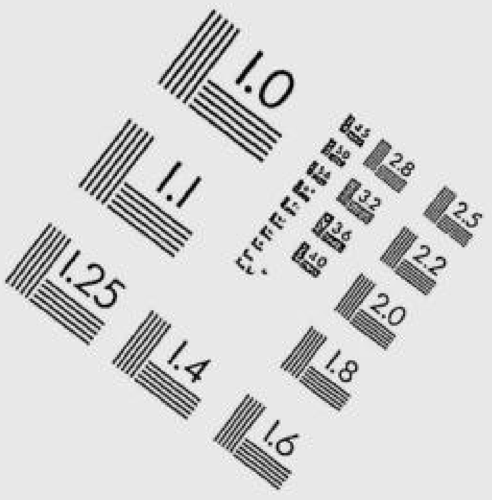
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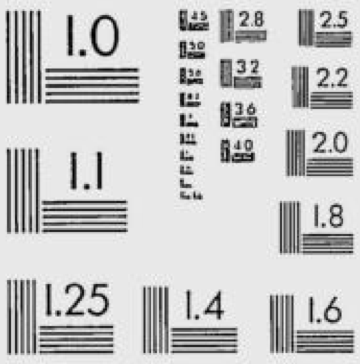
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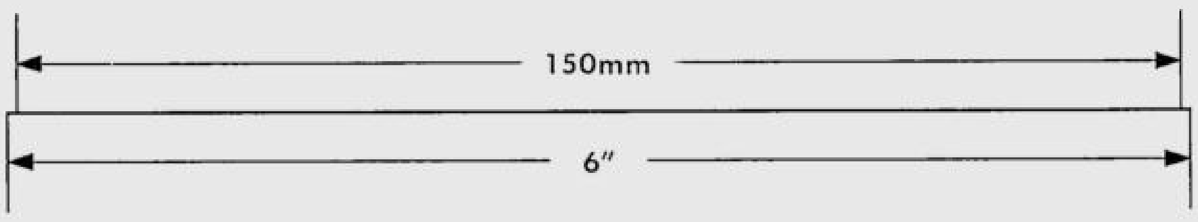

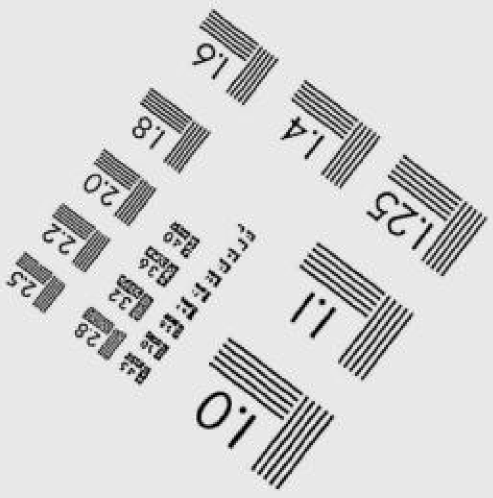
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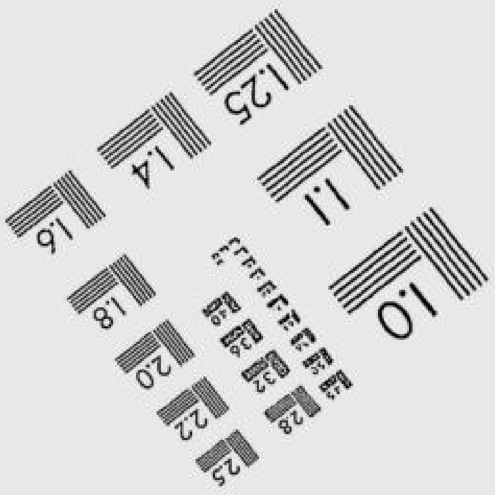
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END

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START

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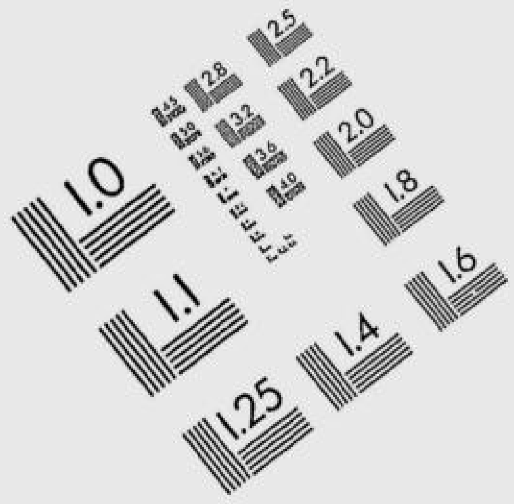
METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES

SEPTEMBER
1 THRU 15
2004

REEL 340

IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (MT-3)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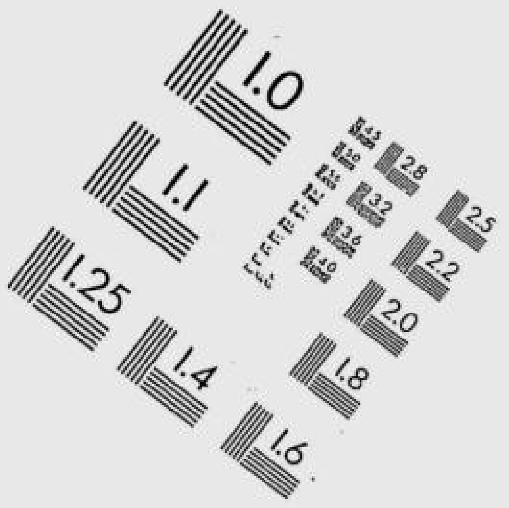
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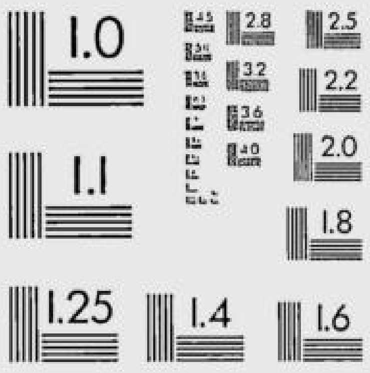
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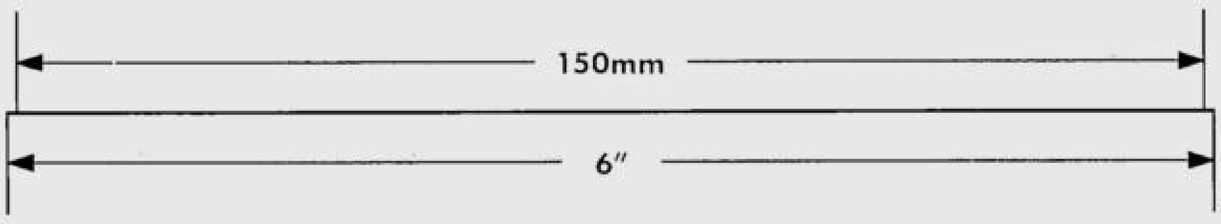

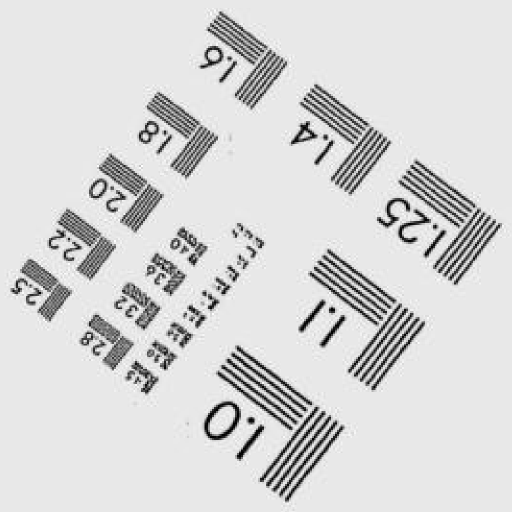
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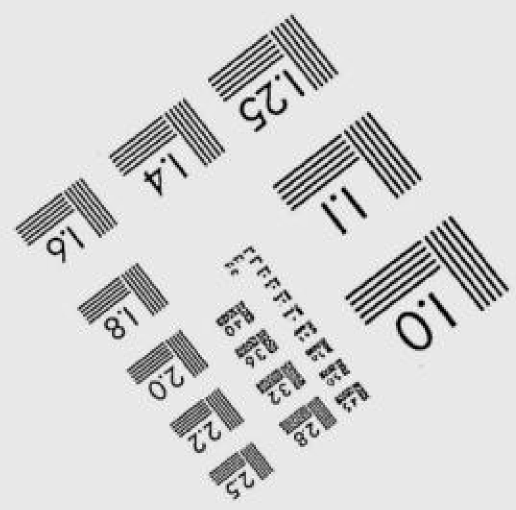
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